

EARTH FIRST!

"NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!"

EARTH FIRST! Journal is published eight times a year.

Subscription is \$10 a year

PO BOX 235 • ELY, NEVADA 89301 • (702) 289-8636

Around the Campfire

"JANET SAYS...

If nothing else, we in Earth First! can put on a damn good show. Take

a look at the photo article on our John Muir Birthday Party and Tuolumne Rally. An even bigger show will be the 1984 Round River Rendezvous (the fifth annual) set for

July 7 in the Cabinet Mountains of western Montana. This great annual gathering of EFers from around the country will feature a rally against the Forest Service's destruction of wilderness, and preparation for

direct action to stop the mineral development of the Cabinet Mountains' Wilderness. See our lead article on this issue.

As we went to press, EFers in over two dozen locations from Maine to Hawaii held demonstrations at Burger King outlets as part of our campaign against the deforestation of Central America. A complete photo report of the demonstrations and the direction



of the most important how-to articles ever presented in *Earth First!*, we tell you how to appeal timber sales and road-building in RARE II areas. Use the fill-in-the-blanks form in this issue. *Stop those dozers with a little piece of paper. It is up to you!*

Ned Ludd continues to attract important contributions. Among many other worthy hints, a veteran Freddie surveyor tells you how to make his job difficult. I'd like to encourage such submissions to *Dear Ned Ladd*. Some folks think that it is the most important part of *Earth First!*. While we're on the subject, I'm spending most of my time apart from the newspaper in putting together our long-awaited book *EcoDefense: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching*. Publication date is this fall. It's still not too late to submit your expert hints on unconventional defense of the wild.

I've long heard rumors of the resistance mounted by the Bolt Weevils of Minnesota to a giant powerline back in the mid-seventies. We've finally tracked down a veteran of this campaign and are most pleased to offer a history of the greatest environmental resis-

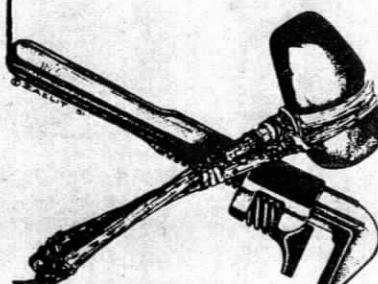
tance movement in American history. Good advice for all of us.

We often rail against the Freddie's in these pages but they aren't the only bad guys. The Fish & Wildlife Service has demonstrated they can be as corrupt and venal as any Forest Service timber engineer. Somebody should hang for the travesty described in our article on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. But let's not let the Freddie's off the hook. They're going after the old growth tall timber in Oregon's Mid-Saintiam right now. While you read this, there will be Earth Firsters standing in front of bulldozers there. Details will follow in next issue.

There are a lot of ideas in this issue from Bill Devall, Reed Noss and others. Chew on them. Finally, write a letter. One of the great wildlands of America needs your help today. We have developed a proposal for an internationally significant Owyhee Wilderness where Nevada, Idaho and Oregon come together. Please write BLM in support of the Earth First! *three and a half million acre* wilderness proposal.

Now excuse me. I'm off to follow Cactus Ed's advice and disappear with my sweetie into the wilderness for eight days.

— DF



EARTH FIRST!
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Earth First! The No-Compromisem Environmental Journal

is an independent publication within the broad Earth First! movement. Entire contents are copyrighted 1984 but we are more than happy to allow reprinting if credit is given. *Earth First!* is a forum for the radical environmental movement and responsibility rests with the respective authors and correspondents. While *Earth First!* does not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, double-spaced, and sent with an SASE. All contributions should be sent to 230 West 7th Avenue, Chico, CA 95926, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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Dear EF!

Tom Stoddard raises some important issues in his essay on "Wilder ness and Wildlife" (part III). Undoubtedly human population growth is the ultimate problem that must be solved if we are ever to have the kind of healthy, diverse planet we all long for. The problem is certainly enormous; the solutions are indeed tentative and tepid, and they are definitely met with great resistance. Radical measures are called for.

But in advancing some of his recommendations, Stoddard runs squarely into the classic problem of balancing the population issue with the real concerns of civil and human rights; namely, who gets to make the choices? Who decides who gets to live and who has to die? I share Stoddard's contempt for the doctrines of the Catholic Church, but I am no more willing to let Tom Stoddard play God than I am the Pope.

Stoddard argues for increased use of the death penalty as a means of reducing over-population. He urges castration or execution for child molesters, rapists, and other "noxious deviants." Well, one man's hero is another man's saint. What happens when political power is held by people who hold views different from yours? Might they not use Stoddard's reasoning to eliminate those who dissent, all in the name of population control? Wasn't that Hitler's reasoning, too?

What about assassination? Does Stoddard see it as a legitimate tool to rid the world of those who pollute, plunder, and pave the wilderness and contribute to the extinction of myriad species of wildlife? Stoddard states that he can do without the John Wayne Daceys, Richard Specks, and John Hinkleys. But all Hinkley did was try to assassinate Ronald Reagan. Reagan is certainly responsible for more environmental degradation than the comatose octogenarians and birth-defected children that Stoddard wants to do away with. In fact, a strong case could be made that the elimination of Reagan would be the best thing that ever happened to wildlife and wilderness everywhere! By Stoddard's own reasoning, doesn't that make John Hinkley a hero?

I think about these questions a lot, for I, like Stoddard, know that population control is the greatest challenge facing mankind. Radical measures are necessary and time is quickly running out. I don't know the answers; I'm not even sure the answers exist. But I know these concerns lie at the very core of the problem, and they demand a more comprehensive discussion than Stoddard's essay provides.

— Robert Verduin
San Francisco, CA

Dearest Earth lovers,

I wholeheartedly support your opinions, attitudes, goals and means of methods! Here in the rural Sierra mountains of California we are currently fighting the spraying of 2,4-D in the Tahoe National Forest, the mining of San Juan Ridge, the recent red-tagging of alternative 'non-code' (non-permit, I should say) homes, etc... etc... It goes on and on, getting more and more crazed under the current administration. I want to know, do you know anyone who has felt the 'economic recovery'? No one I know has. "Anyone But Reagan" says it all.

— Susan

Dear EF!

I was happy to see a mention of the human element in your March cover story on the Burger King protest. The clearing of rainforests for cattle production is an ecological disaster, but it also part of a human disaster affecting millions of third world people. Corporate greed, backed by U.S. strongarm tactics, have long promoted the destructive development your article described.

Two years ago I visited Nicaragua, a poor country whose people were struggling to rebuild after 70 years of destructive U.S.-inspired "development" policies. The corrupt Somoza family, backed by the U.S., ruled the country for 50 years and amassed a great wealth of its resources, including 40% of its arable land. As plantations of export crops developed, peasants were forced off their land and into low-paying migrant plantation work — not the happy Juan Valdez life of TV coffee land. An oversupply of cheap labor (high unemployment and poor working conditions) led to unrest, which Somoza side-tracked with his own brand of "land reform."

Peasants were given a plot of land in the forests near the mountains. After about three years of back-breaking labor, the former forest was hand cleared and the peasants were set to begin their attempt at self-sufficiency. At this point, Somoza's National Guard appeared with an offer the peasants couldn't refuse — move or die. Somoza's cattle herds flourished with the success of the land reform in opening new expanses of rangeland. President Truman's well known line about Somoza says it all: "He may be an s.o.b., but he's *our* s.o.b."

Our craving for beef, coffee, sugar and bananas has given rise to large corporations who now control the destiny of millions of people and the health of this planet. The U.S. has overthrown a democratic government in Guatemala to save the investments of a banana company. We're waging a war against Nicaragua because its people stood up and said "No more!" How far will these policies take us? It seems to me that if we don't destroy ourselves by warring over these resources, the ecosystem will collapse under the pressures.

Earth First! is a welcome movement in all this. If enough people say "No" to every link in the destructive chain and at every chance they get, we can turn around the course of destruction. Thanks for the call to action.

— V.O.
Anchorage, AK

Dear Earth First!

The situation here in Southwestern Coastal Oregon is getting volatile where Mother Earth is concerned. Some of these "cut-em-down" and "use-'em-up" mental midgets have got this peace-loving, hip-pocket environmentalist about half-worried and half-angry. I guess maybe I spent too long living in the woods and learning to accept the values that exist there to be able to tolerate the buffoons that show up out here to cut, poach, steal and dump. Perhaps the insensitivity they display cuts too deeply into the feelings I have for all living things, something I apparently acquired as an after-effect of the jungles of Vietnam. I'm beginning to think it might be a curse rather than a blessing in this modern world of over-use and abuse...

Al, but the unflappable optimist surfaces for one more gasp, thanks in great part to your organization and its apparent motivating forces.

Can it be possible that there are more people that feel about the Earth like I do? The thought sustains my spirit, even causes them to soar.

I encounter very little evidence of environmental concern on the South Coast of Oregon. People here tend to think in terms that create over-use, over-population, pollution and waste. The main concern, the ever-present hue and cry, is to develop anything and everything, with little regard for consequences other than monetary. Narrow-mindedness would be too complimentary a term for this destructive mindset.

We sure could use some support for our forests, their inhabitants (of all species), as well as the beleaguered Pacific Ocean and coastal streams.

To that end, please accept my subscription fee and the offer to join with you in your pursuit of justice for our silent, suffering Partner, the Earth.

— *In faith,*
— Tim

Dear EF!

I enjoyed Dave Foreman's article in *Environmental Action*. It struck a responsive chord. After being co-opted by the system and then losing on top of being sold out, I have given up hope. I doubt whether your alternative offers much hope of succeeding either, but at least it is more emotionally satisfying during the experience. I admire you for keeping up the fight when all looks hopeless.

— Davis, CA

Dear EF!

A few years back I got interested in trying to make a truly efficient wood stove. Over a long path of development I finally came up with one and in the process came up with the technology which I believe will prove to be the answer to the "acid rain" problem.

This wood stove produces water as a by-product of its operation. With this water comes unburned pollutants and acids which normally would be emitted into the air. In developing this stove, I did come up with smoke-free stoves so I know they are a part of our future. So far I haven't tried burning coal in it but from what I know of coal at the moment, this fuel should be able to be burned with equally satisfying results.

Now what is interesting about this is that I have been trying to develop this stove commercially for the past one and one-half years, and have not been able to get any assistance on it from either the government or from private sources.

Our system doesn't lend itself to helping private inventors, and as such, I fall into that same pit. Originally I thought because of what I had invented that things would be different for me. It seems that where "acid rain" is of concern to most knowledgeable people, the men heading up our commerce development could care less about the environmental issues.

At any rate, I wanted to let you know that the cure is available and I'm sure it will work its way through the system, some day. Politics and big money I'm afraid are going to stand in the way of any rapid change in this area.

Charles A. Johnson
E. 160 Lucas Cr. Rd.
Belfair, WA 98528



THE GRIZZLY DEN

by Howie Wolke

It's been a long and cold winter here on the Hoback River, adjacent to the Gros Ventre and Grayback Ridge roadless areas. Spring in northwest Wyoming takes its sweet time in arriving. But arriving, it eventually will. And as new life arises from the waters of old melting snow-banks, so too, will new plans of ecological devastation arise from the old files, plans and dogma of the U.S. Government. The war on wilderness will resume just as certainly as the winter snows recede.

This winter has for me been a busy one, characterized by disappointment, frustration, and perhaps a re-birth of purpose. During the last couple of months we have run into a number of terribly frustrating legal roadblocks which have effectively prevented Earth First! from filing a national RARE II lawsuit against the Freddies. The frustration and disappointment of not being able to take the law-breaking bureaucracy to court was intense. Since years of experience had conditioned me to measure success largely by the number of successful lawsuits and administrative appeals filed, I began to seriously question the effectiveness of the Earth First! movement. Bogged down in a world of paperwork and legal documents (in preparation for the suit), I had begun to lose sight of why we had founded EF!, and of why I had previously severed my formal relationship with the "straight" conservation movement. I wasn't becoming more moderate by any means; rather, I was simply allowing draw me back into a mode of activism which I'd attempted to leave behind.

Let's face it: old habits are hard to break. For nearly a decade, as I worked for groups such as Friends of the Earth and the Wyoming Wilderness Association, I spent my time organizing, lobbying, appealing timber sales and other developments, testifying, reading and commenting on EISs, compiling data and statistics, and doing all of the mundane and nerve-wracking tasks which I disliked intensely, never got paid for, but which I did feel needed to be done. I know some environmentalists who actually *like* fine print and politics. I hate them — passionately.

At any rate, I wanted to let you know that the cure is available and I'm sure it will work its way through the system, some day. Politics and big money I'm afraid are going to stand in the way of any rapid change in this area.

For the most part, somebody needs to play the political games of working within the system. We need that diversity within the movement. But that is the job of the Sierra Club, Audubon, Friends of the Earth, etc. The traditional tactics, even in support of our more "radical" proposals simply do not reflect the primary role of Earth First! as it had originally been envisioned, and as I now firmly believe should remain. Certainly, there will be times when Earth First! has to sue (for example, our successful RARE II suit for the Kalmiopsis), and when we'll need to use other more traditional tactics in pursuit of our non-

traditional goals. But we must never lose sight of our primary purpose.

Earth First! must be the cutting edge of the environmental movement, taking *ecological* not *political* positions on issues. When I helped found EF!, it was partially out of a personal frustration with traditional tactics, partially out of a personal inability to "play the game" any longer, and partially out of a growing disillusionment with the excessive moderation of the environmental movement as a whole. Environmentalism in the U.S. needed a cutting edge: a philosophically pure statement of ecological purpose, against which all other positions could be measured. It also needed an infusion of new tactics and ideas, new people and new standards by which to measure success. The Earth First! movement would fulfill this new role and because of our efforts we would help make the entire environmental movement stronger and more effective. I believe that we are doing exactly that.

As a matter of fact, after some serious reflection both on the Earth First! movement and on my own personal involvement with EF!, I feel very good about what we are and where we are heading. True, we couldn't pull off our planned national RARE II lawsuit. But the suit was, in fact, a too-late effort to wrestle victory from the esophagus of defeat. The suit should have been filed 5 years ago by the Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society. Even though we did find it impossible to do the suit, along the way we managed to raise consciousness, shook up a lot of bureaucrats and politicians, secured and discovered some monumentally important documents (such as the D.A.R.N. Report), helped to organize a number of groups and individuals who are certain to become effective wilderness defenders, radicalized local state wilderness groups, and perhaps most importantly, we have begun a serious movement to completely overhaul and reform the U.S. Forest Service. We didn't pull off the suit, but we did begin to lay a solid foundation for efforts that will certainly lead to saving some wilderness in the next few years. And that is the bottom line.

Therefore, we must produce, publicize and gather support for ecologically sound wilderness proposals; we must demonstrate and blockade, while occasionally (especially at the local EF! group level) we must even resort to traditional legal, administrative and political tactics. And at night, we must physically and strategically assault and destroy their machines of destruction. Above all, we must use our ingenuity and imagination. The measure of the success of Earth First! will be the increased success of environmentalism as a whole. Those far-sighted environmental leaders will see that; those with tunnel vision will not. So be it.

OWYHEE: A BIG WILDERNESS

I do not know whether it was the sun or the song. Both came fluttering gently to my mind on the cool, still, early morning air. I was awake, or at least waking.

The song danced up and down the scale, pure notes and trills, natural and clean and sung from the heart. Eventually the song slipped into a buzz. I knew that song. It was the Lark Sparrow, *Chondestes grammacus strigatus*. Good morning, bird. Good morning, sun.

I blew a few feathers of down away from my face and reached out to pinch off a sprig of big sage. You can turn the leaves gently between your fingers and put them under your nose, and if you are from the intermountain west, you are home. There was no house here, to be sure. I was in the middle of one of the few vast wildlands remaining in the west. The Owyhee uplands. If I wanted to, I could load my pack and by late evening walk to the spot where Oregon, Idaho and Nevada meet. It is about as isolated a spot as you could find anywhere in the lower 48 states.

To the northeast the Snake River plain was drained by the large muddy river that further down thrashed its way through Hell's Canyon, the deepest gorge in North America.

To the South, what water that fell and ran somewhere drained into the Humboldt River and disappeared about 140 miles east of the Sierra Nevada. Great Basin county was to the south and west. Here, on this slightly dipping plateau, water follows the dip —

North. The dry watercourses come together to form sometimes—streams and branches of a river, and eventually become the Owyhee. It is not a very impressive river in August at Rome, where US 95 crosses it. It is quite a different matter for the few hundred whitewater boaters each year who risk life and limb in Class V springtime rapids on the upper Owyhee. And it is a different matter too for the numerous species of wildlife dependent on the ribbon of water.

Beaver and river otter (yes, in the desert) live throughout the river system. Four species of geese and 18 species of ducks use the river.

The red banded trout is indigenous. Mule deer, bobcat, mountain lion and bighorn sheep are common. Raptors fly the canyons and hunt on the adjacent plateaus. Over a hundred and twenty species of passerine birds call the Owyhee home.

The Owyhee provides food, water and shelter. The water, riparian vegetation, junipers, shrubs, grasses, talus slopes, and 1,000 foot Miocene epoch rhyolite cliffs provide a home for bugs, bats, birds, fishes, mammals. A rich land. Outside of the canyon, plateaus, rolling hills and juniper woodland stretch far away to distant desert mountain ranges. Sage grouse live here, and pronghorn.

It is a huge wilderness. And in February the Boise District of the Bureau of Land Management wrote a draft Wilderness EIS for part of it. The BLM analyzes 5 alternatives from 0 acres wilderness to 436,047 acres wilderness. The alternatives

are sketch mapped at the rear of the document. All are bad, some worse than others. What they share in common is the assumption that what counts is the river canyon, rather than the great wild area itself. During the inventory hundreds of thousands of acres of de facto wildland were eliminated from the wilderness study simply because the Bureau didn't feel that the lands

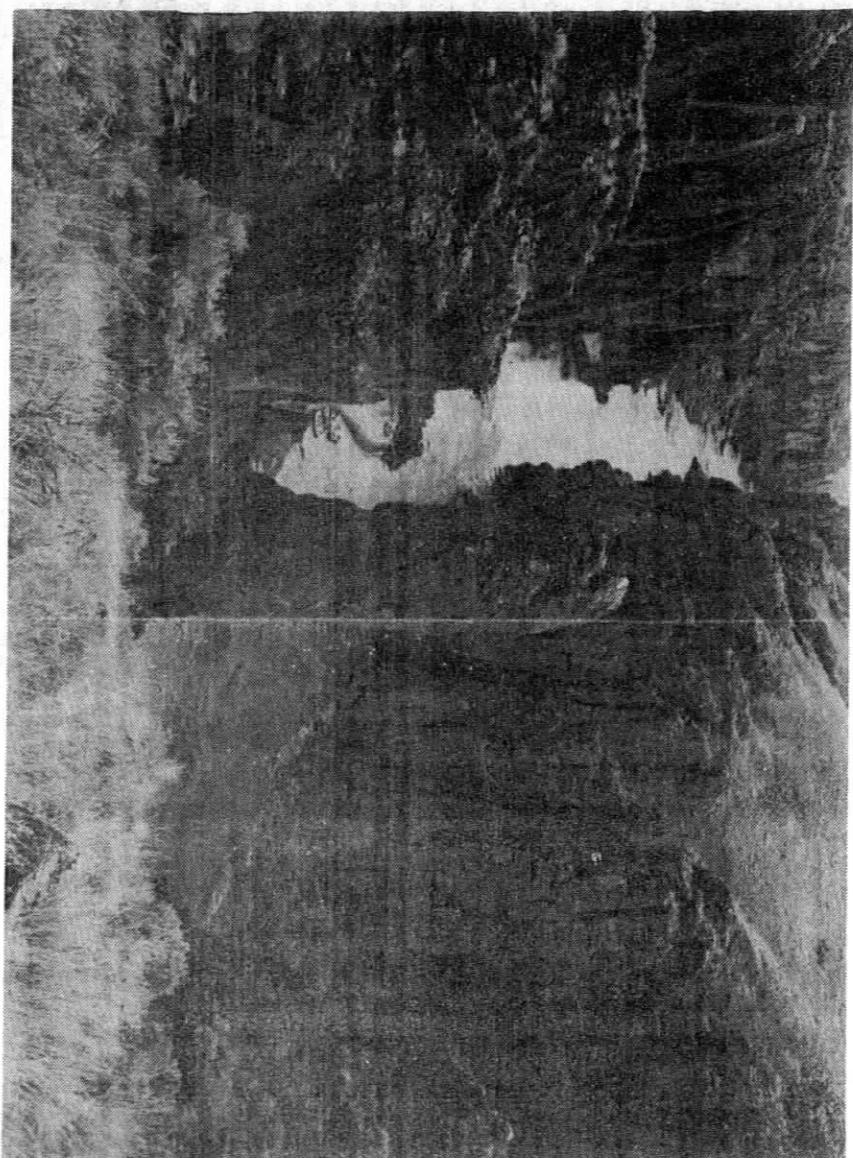
were socially outstanding (they didn't provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or recreation). What remained, predictably, was a disaggregation tenuously linked together by river and canyon.

It was an unacceptable situation and one calling for courage and vision. Once again, the traditional conservation groups have fallen short of the mark. The proposal being generally supported is that concocted by the Committee for Idaho's High Desert. The CHD proposal does deal with all of the Owyhee country upstream from Rome, Oregon. However, it includes too little area and relies on the BLM WSAs to dictate the issues and the general geographic guidelines. The CHD proposal is 1.2 million acres.

Earth First! advocates from the tri state area have reviewed the pertinent documents, visited the area and flown over it. Our original intention was to develop a radical proposal. However, that really wasn't necessary. A modest and moderate proposal evolved. It includes 3,434,000 acres.

Our proposal includes 1,267,000 acres of land in Oregon, 1,176,000 acres in Idaho and 991,000 acres in Nevada. It is modest in the sense that it does not address lands (other than a few small pieces in Oregon) outside of the Owyhee watershed upstream from Rome (Jordan Creek, for instance); and moderate because the effects of designation are not great. In excess of 99% of the land within the proposal is publicly owned. No roads of consequence are closed, and no significant mineral resources are included. There are a few minor seedings, water "improvements" and structures, and, of course, fences.

We recommend that nearly all livestock use be permanently suspended and all rangeland structures be removed, except at two ranching locations where small numbers of stock could be run on a custodial basis using 19th century technology. These small operations would be cowboy museums. Live-



Cabinets (cont)

group from the east is attempting to push through a massive new ski resort on Great Northern Mountain, bordering on the east side of the Cabinet Wilderness which could displace bears in a large area and destroy some of the most critical spring habitat required by the grizzly. A high density residential development including a mixture of hotels and condominiums is being proposed for this project.

The opening line of the U.S. Forest Service Cabinet Wilderness information brochure reads "Keeping the Wild in Wilderness." During the summer of 1983 ASARCO had at least 7 exploratory core-drilling rigs, supplied by two support helicopters, working within the wilderness area. At the same time, U.S. Borax had at least 3 helicopter-supported drilling rigs operating in the Rock Peak area of the wilderness. As fall approached, Borax pushed for several more exploratory core-drilling site locations in other areas of the wilderness. Each drilling site, supplied by helicopters, brought the further impact of diesel pumps, site preparation (requiring the cutting of trees and vegetation) and trails resulting from human tramping. Each site removed yet another small piece of critical habitat from grizzly use, further jeopardizing their existence in this already fragile and diminishing range, and demonstrating a disregard for the wilderness values that serve as the basis for the protected status of the area.

These multiple exploratory drilling sites were all completed without an environmental impact statement, so the public was not given adequate opportunity for input into the process. Although the cumulative effect of these operations on the fragile wilderness had to be a negative one, the Forest Service maintains that none of these massive precedent-setting mechanized activities in the Cabinet Mountains

But the fact is that a comprehensive survey has never been done. There may be many more. Let's protect them.

As a practical matter it will be difficult to designate wilderness in areas with large amounts of private land, with known mineral and energy resources, and numerous rangeland improvements. In the case of the Upper Owyhee we have a large, substantially natural contiguous block of public land without significant minerals or energy resources and where development has never done anything but impoverish the land and the pocket-book. One of the West's truly great wild rivers flows through it. It is a haven for wildlife. It is vast, wild and beautiful. Let's have the cour-

several action, so no EIS was even seriously considered. In fact, in the rush to allow more and more drill sites before the December 31, 1983, exploratory cut-off date, the public comment period for each new activity was limited to only a few days. This in a national wilderness area, one of the most protected (by law, when enforced) land areas in the United States.

ASARCO has already announced the discovery of what it describes as a "sizeable" silver deposit. There is little doubt that both U.S. Borax and ASARCO will further their destructive efforts in this wildlife-rich wilderness area and that mineral development proposals will be forthcoming in the immediate future.

This is one of the last undisturbed national refuges for the grizzly. Allowing mineral development here could possibly write the final chapter for the grizzly in the Cabinet/Yaak ecosystem. The area may also contain a small remnant population of mountain caribou, but the Forest Service has failed to support the most basic fieldwork and aerial surveys necessary to determine the population levels remaining in the Cabinet Mountains. Once proven to be there, the caribou would also have to be protected by law.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 and the Endangered Species Act have established standards for allowable activities in national wilderness areas and in the habitat of endangered species. Mechanized mineral development in the Cabinet Wilderness is clearly in conflict with the intent of these laws. It is not the type of activity that present and future users expect as a part of a quality wilderness experience.

Under the Endangered Species Act the Forest Service must not take action to avoid jeopardy to the grizzly bear and its habitat. Already

the multiple exploratory drilling sites, of questionable legality, may have displaced sensitive wildlife and resulted in other adverse con-

sequences within the wilderness area. The continued degradation of the wilderness by ASARCO and U.S.

Borax under the "watchful" eye of the Forest Service should be called into question by the American public.

Do we allow these activities to continue, in possible violation of law and nature, or do we respond on the side of the wilderness, calling a halt to these actions? It is crucial that we, through our representatives in Congress and through actions in the Federal Courts, take the necessary steps to bring this destructive, precedent-setting invasion of our last wilderness areas to a halt before the damage becomes complete and irreversible.

A dollar value can be put on timber and minerals, but not on a caribou, a wolf or a lake full of cutthroat trout. Equal consideration must be given to the importance of maintaining these species and their habitats as a part of our national forest and wilderness systems. We must continue keeping "the wild in wilderness." The integrity of our wilderness is presently being compromised, and we must all rise to the defense. These intrusions into the Cabinet Wilderness must not go unchallenged. We urge you to demonstrate your firm belief in wilderness protection by voicing your serious concern to your elected representatives, as well as the committee and individuals listed below. We urge that the Cabinet area continue to be protected as wilderness, that the Wilderness Act and Endangered Species Act not be compromised, and that the grizzly and other species be allowed to survive. We urge that the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness be withdrawn from availability for future mineral development. A wilderness area is a sacred place. Let the spirit of the Great Bear remain free for generations to come.

ANGEL DUSTING GRIZZLES

by Peggy Bond

Last summer, a grizzly bear dragged a young man from his tent at Hebgen Lake near Yellowstone National Park, killed and ate him. Wildlife biologists, who knew this bear to be a particularly peaceful animal, were at first at a loss to explain the attack. Then it was discovered that the bear had been sedated at least 11 times with Sernylan, which is the trade name for phencyclidine or, in drug lingo, "P.C.P." or "Angel Dust," and which is known to produce violent and unpredictable behavior in humans. Typically, grizzly bears are solitary creatures, preferring to avoid all contact with humans. They are omnivorous and, since the development and logging of much of their habitat, have become garbage junkies.

In recent years, open-pit garbage dumps have been closed in or near grizzly habitat, and the bears have been forced into a "rehabilitation" program of redeveloping a taste for native foods and the savvy to find them. In the meantime, they frequently return to developed areas, where they are captured, tranquilized and then relocated deep in the back country. The process can be repeated regularly with "problem bears" that keep returning to garbage dumps.

— A Desert Rat

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

WRITE a letter to:

Mr. Joe Zimmer
District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
3948 Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705

SUPPORT the Earth First! proposal for a 3,434,000 acre Owyhee Wilderness. Write before May 30, 1984. Send copies of your letter to your Senators and Congressperson. If you live in Oregon, Nevada or Idaho, send a copy to your governor as well.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Express your concern by writing to your U.S. Senators (U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510), and members of Congress (House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515).

Write to: Robert A. Jantzen, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., 20240. Urge him to implement strict standards under provisions of the Endangered Species Act to protect the threatened grizzly bear

ing to your U.S. Senators (U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510), and members of Congress (House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515).

Write to: Robert A. Jantzen, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., 20240. Urge him to implement strict standards under provisions of the Endangered Species Act to protect the grizzly bear and the Wilderness Act to protect wilderness values in the Cabinet Mountains; and request that you be given an opportunity to give input into the planning process for the proposed Great Northern Mountain Ski Resort.

in the Cabinet Mountains.

And to: James F. Rathbun, Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest, RR 3, Box 700, Libby, Montana 59923, to insist upon strict compliance with the Endangered Species Act to protect the grizzly bear and the Wilderness Act to protect wilderness values in the Cabinet Mountains; and request that you be given an opportunity to give input into the planning process for the proposed Great Northern Mountain Ski Resort.



The drug that acts as a depressant on the central nervous system. By now, the newspapers have familiarized us with the frequently violent human reactions to this unpredictable drug. At times, it induces calm and euphoric feelings along with vivid hallucinations. But at other times, without warning, it fills users, or abusers, with irrational feelings of power, causing them to attack people of obviously superior strength, or to break their own bones while attempting such things as overturning cars or smashing brick walls. Angel dust has even been blamed for homicidal behavior. In a 1978 study, the National Institute of Drug Abuse found that phencyclidine can induce "a psychotic state that is difficult to distinguish from schizophrenia. Many powerful alterations of perception and thought occur, including changes in body image, feelings of isolation and dependency, and a general slowing of mental processes." The Journal of the American Medical Association reports that the drug can produce permanent brain damage in humans. In his 1982 book, *Drugs and Behavior*, Fred Leavitt of California State University at Hayward wrote that phencyclidine is one of only two drugs that have been clearly shown to increase violence in humans.

The drug is also known to produce delayed reactions — or flashbacks — hours, weeks or even months after the effects seem to have worn off. In these episodes, users will suddenly feel threatened, and will lash out at the supposed threat with the same illusory feelings of omnipotence as when they were under the drug's influence.

Is the use of phencyclidine causing the grizzly bear to become a greater danger to itself and the American people? Most wildlife biologists discount the drug's mind-altering impact on grizzlies and have ruled it out as a factor in this summer's killing. But there has been no research on the effects of repeated doses of the drug on either grizzly bears or the many other mammals on which it is used. Certainly, the harmful effects of phencyclidine on humans are reason enough to curtail its use until biologists can prove that they are not creating a new breed of brain-damaged, erratic and highly dangerous grizzly bears, and contributing to the extinction of the finest symbol of America's wilderness spirit.

This article originally appeared in the New York Times. It is reprinted with permission of the author: Peggy Bond lives in Montana near Yellowstone Park.

LOCAL EARTH FIRST! CONTACTS

COLORADO RECREATION DOLLARS

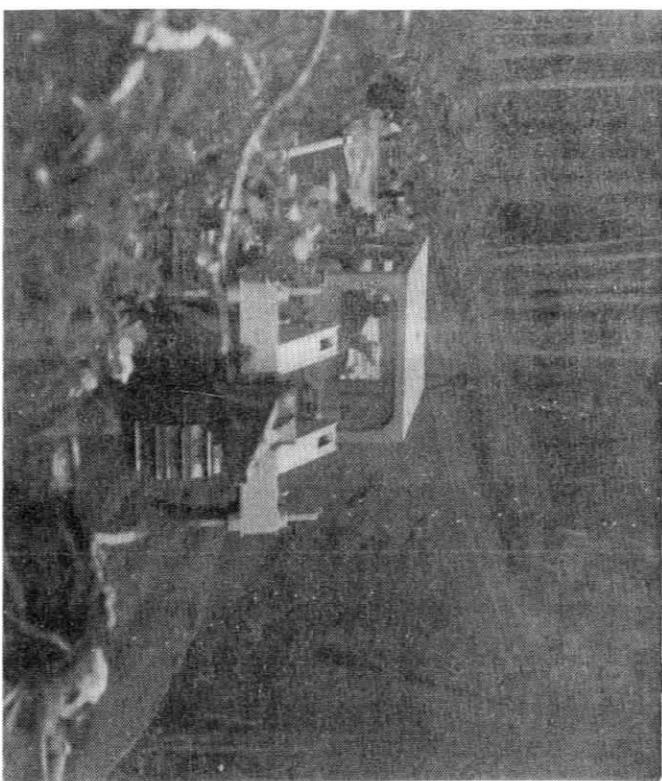
by Jeremy Kaplan

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LAST STAND PLANNED FOR THE LAST STAND

by Marcy Willow

It is Springtime; fairy slippers are emerging from the melting snow and the timber industry's fancy turns to wilderness. Particularly, in western Oregon, to the Middle Santiam.



One year ago, Oregon Earth First! was blockading the *Kalmiopsis big trees*. Now they are putting their bodies on the line for the Middle Santiam.

There is no place in the world like it. Rare species of wildlife live in this unique concentration of Douglas fir forest. It is the second largest biomass in the world. It is home of the cougar, the eagle, black bear and bighorn (to name a few). The trees are eight feet around, three hundred feet tall, and up to seven hundred years old. The longest stretch of wild, unroaded river in western Oregon runs through it.

The timber industry is frothing at the mouth over this one. And Senator Mark O. Hatfield has given the thumbs-down signal on it. He has deleted it from his "wilderness" bill. (Even the earlier House bill, HR 1149, chopped it from 26,000 acres to 19,000 acres to accommodate timber sales). The aftermath of this criminal act (which has already begun) would be the barren unstable soils crumbling into the dying river.

Earth First! and local citizens are drawing a line between the Middle Santiam wilderness and the chainsaws. A blockade is being prepared now to stop the logging already in progress. If you can help on the blockade contact:

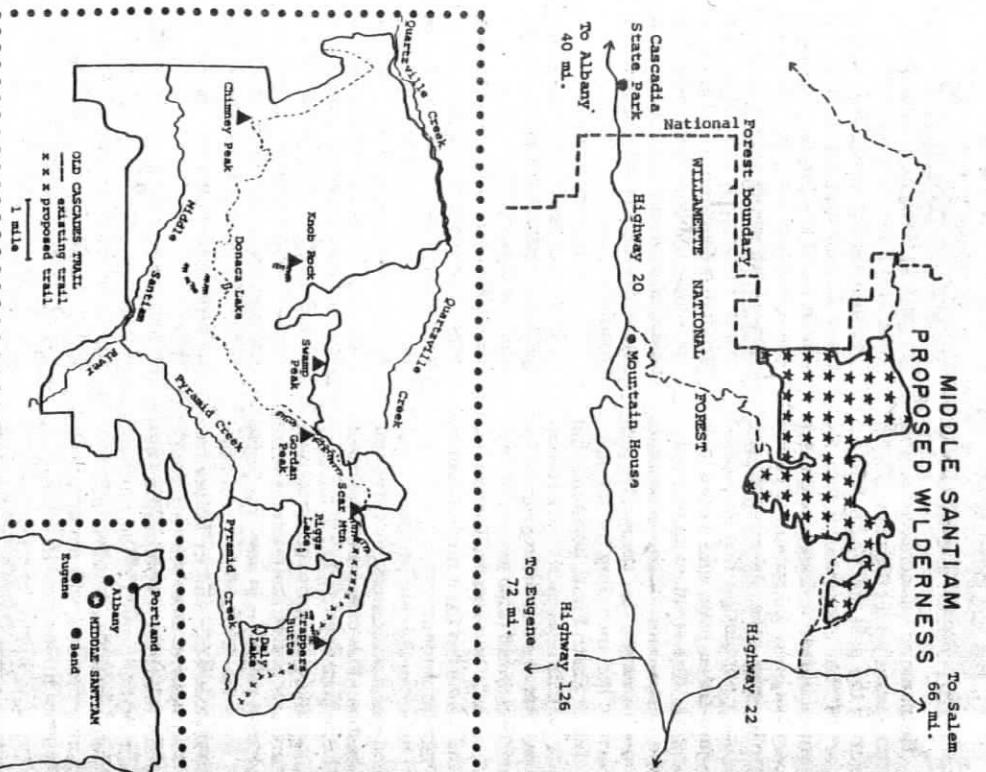
Liza - 929-6073, Marybeth -

687-2304, Leo - 456-2891, Dan -

754-3573, or Don - 456-4481. The

cougar would rather see block-

aders than bulldozers.



HATFIELD PUSHES WILDERNESS DESTRUCTION BILL

by Ric Bailey

As expected, Senator Mark Hatfield (R-Louisiana Pacific) has introduced a poor excuse for an Oregon Wilderness Bill into the U.S. Senate in response both to House Bill 1149 (1.2 million acres) passed a year ago, and the RARE II lawsuit filed by the Oregon Natural Resources Council last December.

Hatfield's bill would designate 740,000 acres of wilderness, and adds 192,000 acres of worthless "special management areas." (As most of us are aware, the Forest Service treats these so-called compromise designations like a sneaky glutton treats sweets: They're more fun to eat because you're not really supposed to.)

Hatfield has done some minor rebuilding of his infamous wilderness demolition bill of 1979, which called for 506,000 acres of wilderness accompanied by hard release language. For example, he has withdrawn his support for the Coleman Rim proposal, and replaced it with Deadhorse Rim which is slightly larger acreage-wise, but is higher elevation with less timber production potential.

Upon further examination, we find that the Hatfield bill fails to include the Middle Santiam, Red Buttes, Grassy Knob and Wassen Creek proposals, the only areas in the House bill with expansive stands of coniferous old growth forest. He has also adjusted the boundaries of six other House proposed areas to eliminate their lower elevation old growth components from protection.

Another low blow in the Hatfield

bill is his inclusion of 222,000 acres of non-forested RARE II recommended wilderness in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. If this is included in the final Oregon bill, it will put a damper on the highly anticipated Hells Canyon Wilderness legislation which many conservationists plan to pursue in conjunction with Senator Bob Packwood immediately after an Oregon bill is passed. That hoped for acreage is ten times Hatfield's offering.

Hatfield's crafty maneuvering in his new bill reaffirms the fact that he is concerned only with designating as small an amount of wilderness as possible on non-timber-productive land solely as a vehicle to obtain the release of the balance of Oregon's roadless areas to the chainsaw.

But despite the lack of credibility of Hatfield's bill, the political reaction has been frighteningly responsive. There is little worry that conservation-oriented Congressmen Jim Weaver will be buffeted, which is encouraging considering his influence on key House committee. But Weaver must be informed that the House bill he supports is shockingly inadequate. It is rumored that his co-sponsors on the House bill, Democratic Reps. Les AuCoin and Ron Wyden are wavering. AuCoin may attempt to strike a compromise with Hatfield, since Hatfield, to AuCoin's dismay, included the Drift Creek proposal in the Senate bill, which is the only roadless area in AuCoin's district. Wyden's concern is honest and true, but his participation has been light.

AuCoin has traditionally shown relatively little concern for wilderness. He jumped on the Oregon bill bandwagon when the RARE II lawsuit threat began to take on some teeth. But when Weaver and public lands subcommittee chair John Seiberling (D-Ohio) were adding acreage to the House bill during mark up, AuCoin threatened to withdraw his support for the bill if an acreage cap was not observed. AuCoin also had the audacity to vote against the original House version of the Endangered American Wilderness Act back in '77.

On the Senate side, Oregon's other Republican Senator, Bob Packwood, who has shown more concern for wilderness than Hatfield in the past, has chosen to sit on his hands. The national conservation groups have been using words like "progress" and "workable" in response to the Hatfield proposal, as they whine for a wilderness bill like a herd of caged poodles. The Oregon Natural Resources Council has sent lobbyists to Washington D.C., but is not taking as strong a position as one would hope and expect. There has been dangerous talk of getting the best compromise possible between the House and Senate bills." ONRC has proposed a 1.2 million acre compromise to Hatfield.

Taking all of this into consideration, the situation is grave and swift action is needed to prevent the loss of the greatest opportunity that has arisen to protect a significant amount of forest wilderness in Oregon, and to prevent Senator Hatfield from giving the Forest Service a

blank check to sell out the remnants of Oregon's forest wilderness to the timber beasts like throwing scraps to an already overstuffed dog.

Oregon Earth First! activists are mounting an intensive lobbying effort to attempt to convince the Oregon House delegation to take a hard line approach in dealing with Hatfield, to use the fulcrum of the RARE II lawsuit to take the offensive and to add wilderness to the House bill.

Hatfield knows that the timber industry does not want to see all Oregon Roadless Areas closed off by the lawsuit for an indefinite period of time, as evidenced by his adding of acreage in his new bill. They (Hatfield Industry) must be made to negotiate on conservationists' terms.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Those of us who are dedicated to the cause of preservation of forest ecosystems and establishing reasonable wilderness preserves, and have worked toward this cause must decide what we really want to show for our efforts, and what semblance of a natural environment will survive in the state of Oregon. The fate of many of the most magnificent virgin old growth forests left in America is at stake. Your letter to the Oregon House delegation can indeed make a difference. If most of the people who have read this article spent the 20 minutes and pocket change it takes to contact them, it would have to make at least a few thousand acres difference in the final bill.

isn't your time worth a few thousand acres of rich, virgin old growth rain forest?

Each House member (Jim Weaver, Ron Wyden, Les AuCoin) can be contacted at: House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. You might also call them at (202) 224-3121.

They need to be made aware that the 6.9 million acre Earth First! Oregon proposal is strongly supported (see *EF* Sept. 23, 1983 for details) and that the public realizes that no compromise between the House and Senate bills could be considered anything more than a sellout to special interests. And you might mention that those who care about conservation should at long last take a hard line against any attempts to prevent the inclusion of old growth forest into the wilderness system.

Hatfield is also susceptible to public pressure. Drop him a line at: Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Also contact Sen. Bob Packwood. Ask him to take a more active role on this important issue.

Hatfield's bill has not yet been reviewed by the Senate Agriculture Committee, which is necessary before a floor vote is taken. There is still time to act before Hatfield's atrocious bill passes the Senate, and lands in a House-Senate conference committee. The more fighting we do with our pens today, the less well have to do with our bodies tomorrow.

EARTH FIRST! PROPOSES 6 MILLION ACRES NATIONAL FOREST WILDERNESS IN ARIZONA

by Ed Abbey and Pablo Desierto

Humankind has achieved almost total mastery over the planet Earth during the past 200 years. While a part of this effort was meant for general human welfare, the greater part has been the pursuit of power for its own sake. As a result, the human population has multiplied many times over, and population growth, industrial expansion and the destruction of the ecosystem now threaten the basis of every form of life, including the human.

We in Earth First!, believing that life - all life - is sacred, urge therefore that the non-industrialized or natural world (also known as "wilderness") be preserved, extended and protected from further human aggrandizement.

We advocate this admittedly radical moral position for two principal reasons: (1) because the wilderness, the natural world, other living creatures and other forms of being (rock, earth, air, water, mountains, plains, clouds, rivers) - in sum, the Earth - have the natural right to continue their existence and evolution free of industrial man's interference, manipulation, exploitation and domination; and (2) because the moral, spiritual, intellectual, emotional, physical and material well-being of humankind itself depends upon the health of wilderness, of nature, of the Earth as a whole. We are consequently obliged to limit and lessen our human numbers (by natural attrition and by humane means of population control) to a rational, sustainable level and to reduce our material demands upon the world around us to a point that no longer endangers the continuity of other species and our own.

Our program begins at home - in our own lives, in our own community, in our own beloved state of Arizona. As the first small step toward a sane and healthy civilization, we make the following recommendations for the protection and enlargement of Arizona wilderness areas:

In studying the Roadless Area process in Arizona's national forests, we found it useful to invert the process and develop a Roadless Area Review and Evaluation. The Earth First! wilderness proposal is a combination of presently roadless areas with areas that should be made roadless in the future. Our study has centered on the question of which roads and what human uses should remain, rather than merely saving a portion of presently roadless areas.

The wilderness proposals of the Arizona congressional delegation and the Arizona Wilderness Coalition are actually wilderness reduction proposals, since they would give congressional protection to only a small part of our present defacto wilderness, while opening the remainder (or most of it) to conventional forms of industrial exploitation. In light of the basic philosophy of Earth First!, this is not satisfactory; we propose to expand, not further reduce, the actual wild areas of Arizona, beginning with our national forests but not limited to them.

We advocate the creation of what we call an "eco-preserve" system that includes not only our national forests but also much of the adjoining state and federal lands now under the management of the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service. We are also suggesting the inclusion of parts of certain Indian reservations, contingent upon approval and shared management by the concerned tribes.

The Earth First! proposal for Arizona's national forests is then only a preliminary building block for the desired system of area-wide ecological preserves. Earth First! suggests a total of just more than 6 million acres of forest lands as the desirable minimum, as opposed to the miserly 750,000 acres proposed by Arizona

Congressmen Morris Udall, and the tribes.

This is the Earth First! proposal in broad outline. We wish to add, though, that it is not sufficient that a 30 million-acre eco-preserve system be established; it is equally necessary that, once set up, the system be managed, or better yet, be allowed to manage itself, in ways that support rather than erode the diversity, freedom and long-term health of the whole. By this, we mean that incompatible uses of the wilderness, such as mining, helicopter traffic, fencing, water storage facilities, and stock grazing be phased out with all due deliberate speed. (Eat more venison.)

The beef industry, chief offender here, has had a free ride upon the public lands for more than a century; the infestation of our deserts, canyons, forests and plains by domestic cattle has been and remains a plague upon the land. (Eat less beef.)

The time has come to terminate the offense. If this creates an unemployment problem among cattle herders, we suggest these "cowboys" (as they are often called) be hired as mounted rangers to patrol the boundaries of the eco-preserves. The well-known comical "cowboy hat" could be preserved as an official part of the patrolman's uniform.

We of Earth First! are proud to offer our wilderness proposals to the general public and to our official representatives in government. We trust they will be received in the spirit in which they are given.

As a gesture of good will, however, and until the human population of Arizona is gradually reduced to a number that the land can decently support (probably 500,000 and no more) we in Earth First! are willing to lean over backward in the effort to be fair and reasonable, trusting that other interested parties will follow our example.

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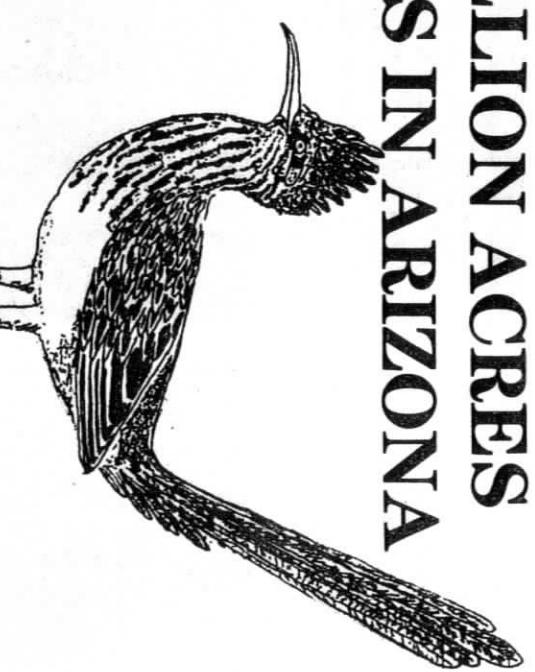
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EARTH FIRST! ARIZONA NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSAL

Name of Area

National Forest

Acreage

1. Catalina-Rincon	Coronado	230,800 ¹
2. Atascosa-Tumacacori	Coronado	126,940 ²
3. Mt. Wrightson	Coronado	105,600
4. Huachuca-Canelo Hills	Coronado	84,473 ³
5. Whetstones	Coronado	44,800
6. Dragoons	Coronado	40,960
7. Winchesters	Coronado	20,000
8. Galiuro Additions	Coronado	84,400
9. Santa Therese	Coronado	76,800 ⁴
10. Mt. Graham	Coronado	192,000 ³
11. Chiricahua Additions	Coronado	220,140 ⁴
12. Peloncillos	Coronado	106,880 ^{4b}
13. Bear Wallow-Painted Bluffs	Apache-Sitgreaves	183,680
14. Blue Range	Apache-Sitgreaves	448,000 ⁶
15. Hells Hole	Apache-Sitgreaves	15,040 ⁶
16. Campbell Blue-Centerfire	Apache-Sitgreaves	35,200
17. Mother Hubbard	Coconino	10,240 ⁶
18. San Francisco Peaks	Coconino	32,640
19. Strawberry Crater	Coconino	35,840
20. Red Rock-Secret Mountain	Coconino	83,200
21. House Mountain	Coconino	35,200
22. Rattlesnake	Coconino	48,280
23. Wet Beaver-West Clear Creek	Coconino	209,280 ⁷
24. Hackberry Mt.-Fossil Creek	Coconino	83,200 ⁷
25. Jacks Canyon	Coconino	35,200 ³
26. Padre Canyon	Coconino	24,320
27. East Clear Creek-Barbershop	Kaibab/Coconino	49,280
28. Kendrick Mountain	Kaibab/Coconino	61,440
29. Burro-Willis Canyons	Kaibab	74,880 ⁸
30. Kanab Creek	Kaibab	231,680 ⁹
31. Saddle Mt.-Big Ridge	Kaibab	188,160 ¹⁰
32. Coconino Rim	Kaibab	121,881
33. Sycamore Canyon Additions	Kaibab/Prescott/Coconino	
34. Hell Canyon	Kaibab/Prescott	29,440
35. Bradshaw Mountains	Prescott	110,080
36. Porter-Mountain	Prescott	261,760
37. Juniper-Sheridan-Granite Mts.	Prescott	35,840
38. Fritsche	Prescott	353,280 ¹¹
39. Muldoon-Woodchute	Prescott	55,040
40. Black Canyon-Grief Hill	Prescott	108,800
41. Arnold Mesa	Prescott	38,400
42. Pine Mountain Additions	Tonto/Prescott	69,120
43. Cooks Mesa-New River Mesa	Tonto	60,800
44. Mazatzal Additions	Tonto	147,840
45. Hells Hole-Salome	Tonto	257,920
46. Four Peaks-Boulder	Tonto	364,800
47. Sierra Ancha Additions	Tonto	231,520
48. Salt River	Tonto	115,840
49. Goldfields	Tonto	142,720
50. Black Cross	Tonto	21,120
51. Horse Mesa	Tonto	6,290
52. Superstition Additions	Tonto	10,450
		161,920
TOTAL: 6,066,134 acres		

¹additions to Pusch Ridge & Saguaro NM Wildernesses in four con-

²two units

³two units

⁴includes contiguous acreage in New Mexico

⁵includes acreage in New Mexico

⁶does not include contiguous acreage in New Mexico

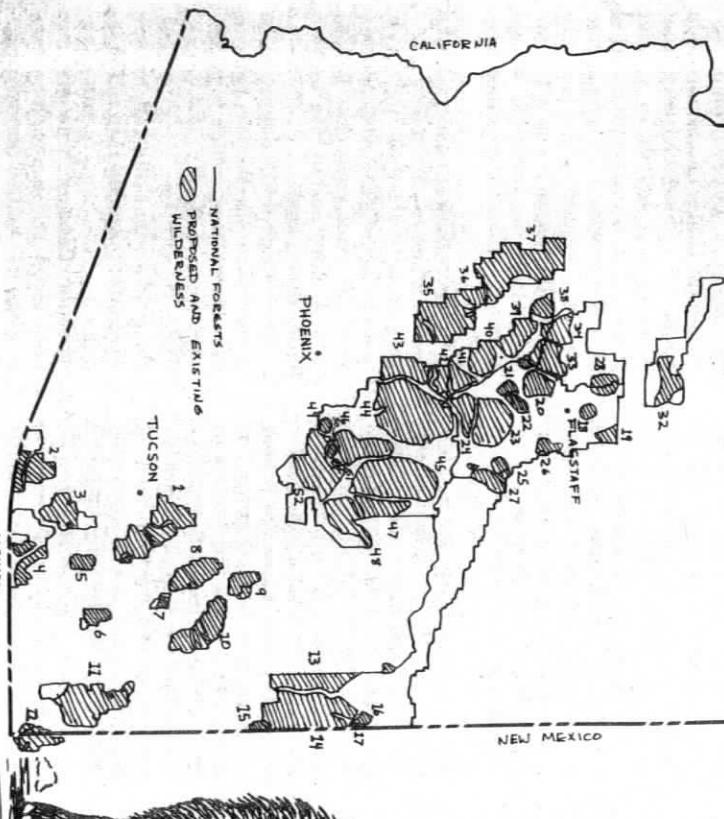
⁷two units separated by powerline

⁸plus 26,880 acres BLM land

⁹plus 80,640 acres BLM land

¹⁰plus 35,200 acres BLM land

¹¹includes 100 sections of checkerboard private lands



BREAKING GROUND AND THE PUBLIC TRUST IN THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

by Clod Funnston

Spring is a magical time in the Far North and nowhere is it more wonderful than in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). It is a time when winter clutches the land until the last possible moment — then everything changes overnight. Warm air flows over the snowpack. Swollen streams and rivers race to the Arctic Ocean. Flooded lagoons and river deltas host myraids of migratory waterfowl on their return to nesting areas in the north. They are joined by hundreds of thousands of shorebirds and passerines. The tundra rings with a continual din of territorial proclamations by male birds. Female caribou of the Porcupine River herd culminate their epic migration across snow fields, ice-choked rivers and mountains, and seek out snow-free patches of tusk-sock tundra on the north slope of the refuge to give birth to their calves.

This spring when the snow melts and the traditional migrants return to the coastal plain of ANWR something will be different. The previously unblemished tundra (the last U.S.), a tapestry of blended plant communities draping the landscape, has been slashed from horizon to horizon. Seismic lines, bulldozer trails, tracks from trailer sleds, dynamite sleds, and other oil and gas exploration equipment have left essentially indelible scars on America's wildest wilderness. No one can erase them. No one knows for sure how long the scars will remain visible. Experts say that the damage varies from site to site and recovery will likewise vary. They indicate, however, that recovery will take longer than 10 years and that in many sites the damage will remain visible for over 100 years. The northern tundra is a sensitive land with short growing seasons, slow nutrient recycling and is underlaid with

permafrost. When the protective vegetation is removed, a thawing of the permafrost called "thermo karsting" occurs. In areas rich in fine soil and ice, there can be severe slumping of soils and erosion into mud ditches. It is uncertain at this time how extensive the erosion will be in the recently scarred refuge.

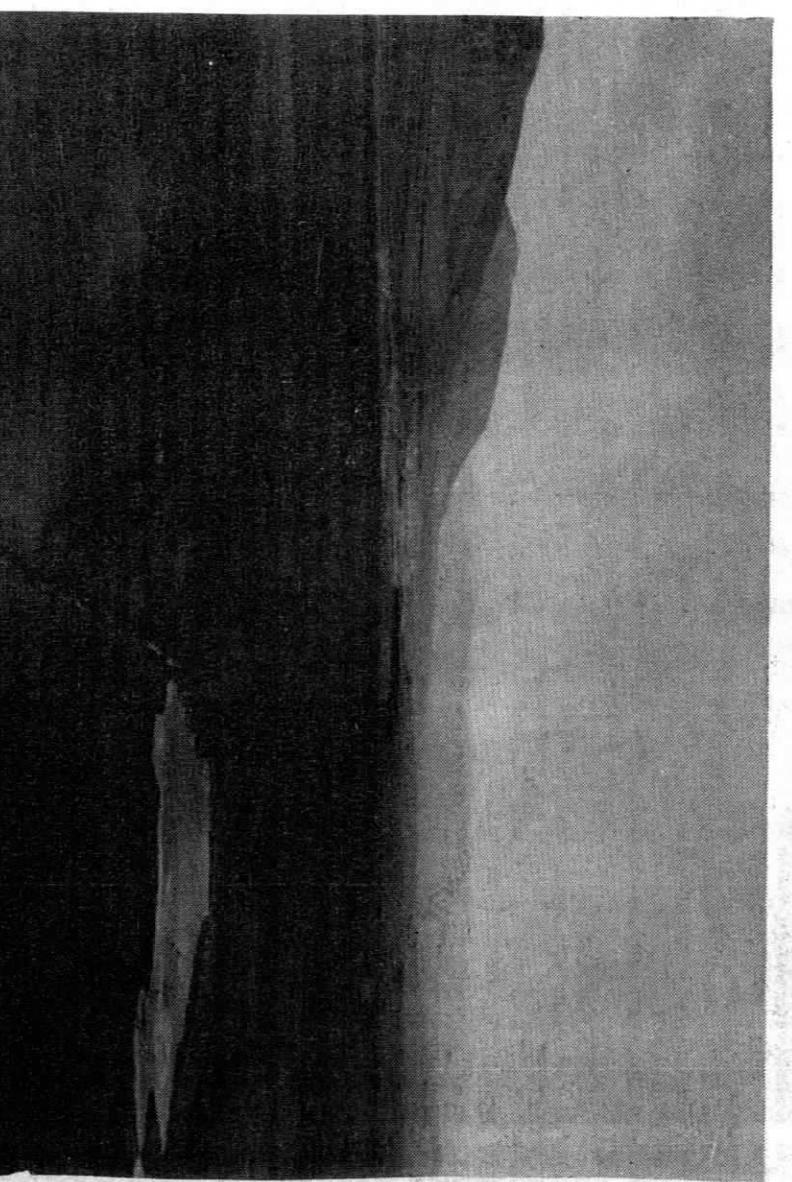
But how did this happen? How was such a tragedy allowed to happen? Isn't this area part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, managed and protected by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The stage was set sometime ago. Ever since oil was found at Prudhoe Bay 60 miles west of the refuge, oil companies have coveted the opportunity to explore in ANWR. During the intense debate of the Alaska Lands legislation in the late 1970's the oil lobby was successful in procuring a "foot in the door" via Section 1002 of the Act. That section required a resource assessment of the coastal plain of ANWR. It also authorized a limited oil and gas exploration program to be conducted according to guidelines designed to assure that significant adverse effects on fish and wildlife habitat and other resources be avoided. The intent of Congress was clear that the exploration be conducted with the *highest standards of environmental protection*. It soon became obvious that the intent of Congress was not the intent of the Reagan Administration. In March, 1981, Interior Secretary Jim Watt issued an order which placed the U.S. Geological Survey in charge of developing exploration regulations and implementation of programs on the refuge. Alaskan conservation groups sued Watt and won, restoring the Fish and Wildlife Service as steward of the Arctic Refuge. Although the correct agency was back in charge, Watt remained its boss. Watt's Deputy Under-Secretary, Bill Horn, directed the production of pro-industry oriented exploration regulations. Throughout the public process,

conservationists, local residents, scientists, recreationists and concerned citizens stressed that it was imperative that the regulations specify techniques and procedures that would be least-damaging to the sensitive Arctic terrain and wildlife. Experience has shown that seismic operations using bulldozers and associated equipment for access across the surface would cause unacceptable, significant damage to aesthetic and wilderness values.

Instead, conservationists and others recommended the seasonal use of advanced technologies which are transported over the land by helicopter. Such programs have worked successfully on the Kenai NWR and in other locations in Alaska and the lower 48 states. The testimony of conservationists was not heeded and regulations allowing bulldozer programs were approved. The Fish and Wildlife Service assured, however, that surface vehicles (bulldozers) would only be allowed to operate when and where the ground and vegetation were protected by adequate snow cover. This determination was made by FWS knowing full well that the area of ANWR to be explored was prone to light, uneven snow cover conditions. With regulations in place, FWS accepted plans from industry in mid-July, 1983, and later approved a plan submitted by Geophysical Services Inc. (GSI). It's ironic that this is the company that used bulldozers to carve its initials in the tundra at the western border of the refuge in the early 60's. (The scars are clearly legible to this day. See photos.)

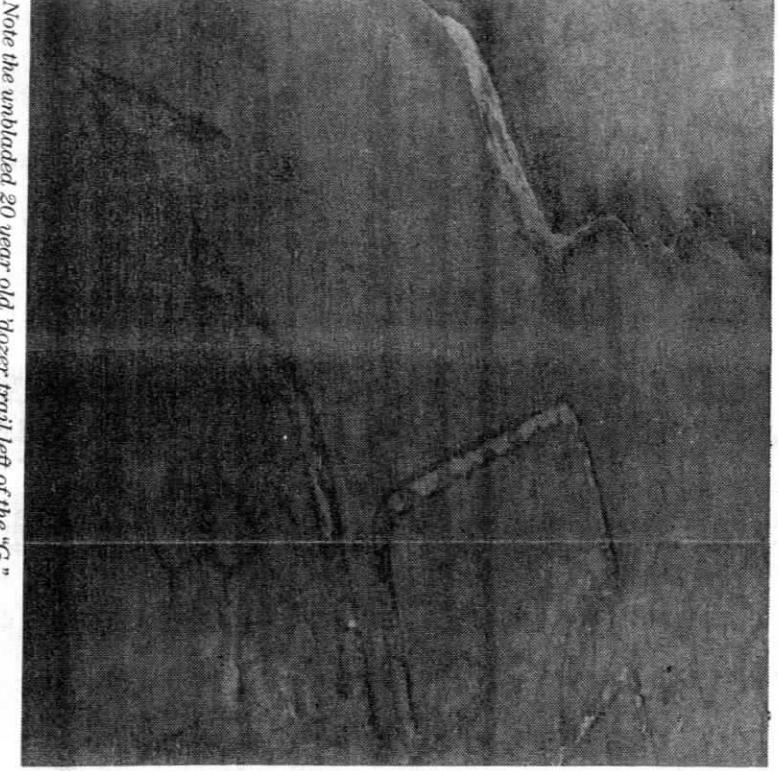
Little snow fell on the arctic coastal plain in the fall and winter of 1983. It was an abnormal year for snow conditions — the lightest anyone could remember. ANWR staff alerted their superiors to a potential problem in November 1983, as GSI was making final preparations for exploration in the refuge. On January 6, 1984, FWS personnel sur-



Bladed trail paralleling the Canning River. Sudlerachet Mts on left.

veyed snow cover and found it to be inadequate to prevent significant damage from GSI's bulldozers and other vehicles. Refuge Manager Glen Elison received recommendations by field personnel to not authorize exploration activities in the refuge until snow conditions improved to an adequate level. After apparently consulting with his superiors, Elison gave the green light to GSI. Work was initially directed to a small area of the refuge where snow conditions were slightly better than elsewhere. Soon the operations moved out of this area and proceeded into areas where the snow layer was insufficient to protect vegetation and soil. This was essentially what FWS previously had assured would not be allowed. FWS field monitors were instructed that they could not suspend operations until *after* significant damage had occurred. The "catch-22" was that officials of FWS would not define what constituted significant damage.

And so as time passed and the bulldozers rolled over the exposed tundra, many long-lasting trails were etched across a previously unmarked Arctic wilderness. Such desecration was once likened by Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska, when referring to a proposed gas pipeline to be built across the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge) to "taking a razor blade to the Mona Lisa." The pipeline Senator Stevens was concerned about has not been built, but this winter, the FWS allowed multiple desecrations with many slashes across the masterpiece. They broke the ground and the public trust in one fell blow.



Note the unbolted 20 year old dozer trail left of the "G."

During the mid-1970s, the farmers of Minnesota rose in near-revolution against the condemnation of their lands for rights-of-way for a giant powerline. This was probably the largest and most sustained militant environmental protest in the history of the United States, but its story is little told and shrouded in the cold mist of the North Country. The following is a first-hand report from an Earth First!er who took part in the Bolt Weevil Rebellion.

In late 1969, the nation's major utilities began what was perceived to be their final rape of America. Major power pools were formed among regional utilities to buy and sell electricity and to fleece smaller utilities.

In 1972, northern utility companies met in Minneapolis and conceived the idea of mine-mouth lignite coal power plants in the region with the wholesale shipping of power via huge direct current powerlines crosscountry. They agreed to finance the entire mining operation for Falkirk Mining Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of North American Coal Company which was created especially for the project.

The project fell on the shoulders of two regional power co-ops, United Power Association and Cooperative Power Association. They planned to run a +/- 400 kilovolt DC line from Underwood, North Dakota, to Delano, Minnesota. The line was to have 180-foot tall steel towers, four to the mile, with braided conductors 1 1/2 inches in diameter strung from glass insulators.

Typical of most utilities, UPA-CPA failed to notify the affected public until July 10, 1974, when they placed a small notice in the *Herman Review* of Herman, Minnesota, whose editor chose to make it into a headline article. Farmers quickly came alive with much vigor. Dubbing the line an "aerial sewer," small protest groups sprung up and tried to stop the line through the local county boards. CPA-UPA responded with blackmail: If the permits stayed, the co-ops would have no choice but to ask the State Public Service Commission for interruptible service for the farmers. The farmers, needless to say, were pissed off by this heavy-handed tactic.

A series of legal and regulatory battles that were stacked against the farmers followed. Frustration with this process served to incite the protest further. The situation steadily deteriorated until the farmers had no choice but to go into their fields and stop the powerline with their bodies and monkey-wrenches.

The following is a rough chronology of what happened to protest the line from its beginning until 1979 when the protest approached a state of dormancy, of waiting and watching until such time that it would be appropriate to "ride again." In this chronology I am including only items of protest and the dirty tricks of the authorities.

June 1972 UPA-CPA met with REA to discuss feasibility of the line.

Nov. 1972 Burns and McDonnell of Kansas City, MO, were hired for the feasibility study.

June 1973 The Mid-continent Area Reliability Co-ordination Agreement Council approved the

CU project transmission proposal. **July 1973** Burns and McDonnell completed the feasibility study. **Sept. 1973** Commonwealth Assoc. completed the environmental analysis for the powerline.

Nov. 1973 UPA-CPA formally applied for an REA loan.

Nov. 1973 Black and Veatch of Kansas City, MO, was elected to be the consulting engineer for design and construction.

Feb. 1974 CU loan application was approved by the REA.

March 1974 Contract for two turbine generators was awarded, \$27,700,000.00, and two steam generators were awarded, \$76,000,000.00.

May 1974 Contract for HVDC terminals was awarded, \$54,000,000.00.

May 1974 UPA-COA applied for county board license in Pope County.

June 1974 Site for Dickenson generating station was acquired. County board officials were investigated by the utilities.

July 1974 Site for Coal Creek generating station was acquired.

Oct. 1974 Coal agreement was signed with North American Coal Company, creating Falkirk Mining Co.

Feb. 1975 Contract for structural steel was acquired, \$23,800,000.00 submitted to the Environmental Quality Board for corridor designation.

May 1975 Construction was started on plant. Contract was awarded for towers, \$12,400,000.00.

6/8/76 A Stearns County farmer stopped surveying by driving over a tripod and running into a truck with his tractor. He was arrested.

9/30/76 Meeker County utility thugs beat up protesters. Several were hospitalized (one would never walk again). One 71-year-old farmer was arrested for pulling a worker off a protester.

Nov. 1976 "Constitution Hill" Farmers stopped surveying dead during five days of non-violent protest. On the first day farmers drove farm trucks in the way of surveyors. One would move to avoid arrest, another would move and take his place. The next day was "chainsaw day." (Running chainsaws create too much static in walkie-talkies. Surveyors could see, but not hear each other.) The next day farmers received permission from the town board to repair the town road. When surveyors arrived, farmers already had the road blocked off and torn up. Next, two weeks later, surveyors were stopped by farmers marching in a ring in front of tripods, again not standing long enough to be read the restraining order against protest testing then in effect. The sheriff tried to read the order by loudly speaking, but the farmers were singing too loudly to hear the order. From this point on, things kept disappearing: stakes, trucks, steel, bulldozers, etc.... Some stakes were moved just enough so that when the foundations were poured they had to be jack-hammered out and re-poured.

May 1, 1984

BOLT WEEVILS

Protesters diffused the situation by giving troopers flowers, cookies and coffee. (National media left the area after this day, they wanted blood, I guess.)

1/10/78 4-5 gallons of water were poured down the exhaust pipe of a bulldozer.

1/11/78 8 more farmers were arrested, including a farmer and his wife who asked surveyors working on their land for identification.

1/14/78 The Pope County protesters quit over the protest issue, no one could be found in the county to take his place.

1/16/78 14 farmers were arrested, eight of them while protesters formed a moving circle in front of two surveyors. Thirty troopers tried to move the circle. One trooper was quoted as saying, "Next time we get you guys on the ground, you're not getting up." Several protesters ended up in the hospital.

1/18/78 A protester arrested on Jan. 11 ended a 6-day hunger strike after a 45-minute talk with the governor.

1/23/78 Protesters held a rally at the state capital. During this rally, protesters burned copies of the \$500,000.00 lawsuit and the temporary restraining order placed on them. They also occupied the capital building overnight.

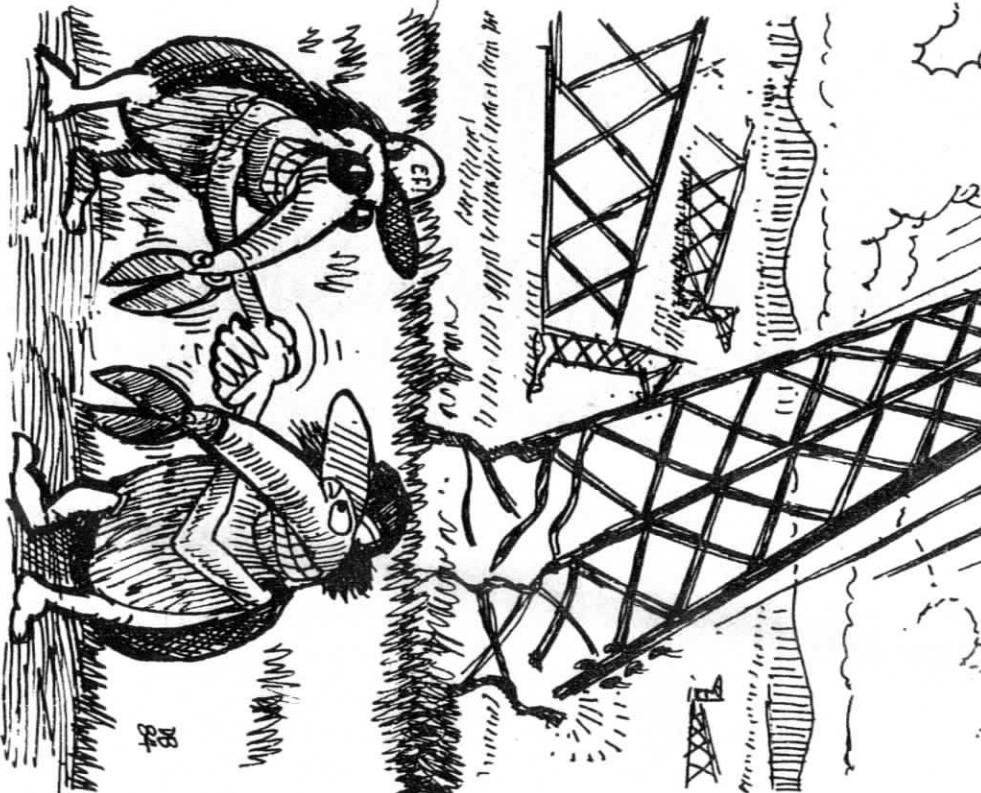
1/27/78 The media and state troopers all feared violence would erupt.

making workers chip out another 6' of concrete. Steel from the bases was often blown away by the strong western winds we had that year.

When "day trashing" was in vogue, whole sections of tower bottoms would disappear. Many farmers in west-central Minnesota now have bench presses and other implements and repairs made from suspicious looking steel. Tower tops were sometimes run over by cranes needed to assemble them. Tower tops often broke the windows of cranes. Conducting cables and insulators suffered greatly during hunting season. During one night, three and one-half miles of towers lost every one of their insulators. One quarter mile stretch of line was so frayed that it had to be replaced.

1/17/78 215 state troopers were called into Pope County to "restore" order. This was the largest mobilization of troopers in Minnesota's history.

1/8/78 The media and state troopers all feared violence would erupt.



2/8/78 Three construction workers were arrested in Traverse County for possession of dope and illegal guns. They were released on \$500.00 bonds and promptly disappeared.

2/8/78 Protesters held a trap shoot near the lime.

2/11/78 Protesters were broken up by a flying wedge of troopers while linking arms to stop trucks from leaving a cement plant. Trucks forced their way out and nearly ran over the protesters. Three protesters were arrested, two of them ended up in the hospital. One was kicked in the head and ribs by troopers. This incident was filmed by a protester. The film was nearly confiscated by the courts when used for evidence.

Feb.-March 1978 Many protesters during this period of protest were held for bail of up to \$2,000.00. Feb. 13-15 These days were truly our days of rage. We were frustrated and upset by violence brought against us by the state. The temperature during the last two months had been below zero most of the time, sometimes as low as -25°. People were arrested for driving too slow and for parking next to police cars. People were pulled out of their moving cars and arrested. We were living in a police state. People were arrested one day and next, while they were still in jail. Airplanes and 'copters were always in the air buzzing us and scaring cattle. So on the 13th several farmers armed with clubs got in a manure spreader and forced troopers next day troopers used mace on protesters. The day after this the farmers used their own chemicals. A tank of anhydrous ammonia was released on 120 troopers, 75 of which were in riot gear. During the 14th and 15th the troopers brought out howitzers which were set up pointing in at the farmers.

Thus near-violence frightened many of the protesters. We started to discuss non-violence and the name of Martin Luther King, Jr., was brought up. A sign in the Lowry town hall said, "Martin Luther King was arrested 126 times. We also have a dream. No Powerline."

Feb. 20-21 This turned the tide away from violence. During these two days, 21 protesters were arrested using non-violent tactics. We lay down in front of cement trucks, blocked construction with sit-down demonstrations and otherwise kept the peace.

3/2/78 On this day one of the most humorous series of arrests took place. Six farmers, one whose head was covered with a bucket, linked arms and in front of a cheering crowd, backed into a manure spreader unloading pigshit. Covered with shit and still linking arms, they sat down in front of a worksite. Troopers had quite a time deciding who should do the arresting and how to transport the "criminals" to jail.

3/5/78 A rally and march for justice was held. 8,500 people followed a funeral procession to a rally site west of Lowry where justice was buried.

3/15/78 Protesters tied yellow ribbons around towers since we had dubbed them Minnesota's new state tree. This was done again later in the protest by our "tower climbers" and "tree roosters." Also on this day the utilities offered a \$50,000.00 reward for the arrest of vandals.

4/3/78 Trashing during the day

began. With spring mud as our ally we waded into knee-deep mud and the towers just flew apart. The UPA-CPA officers were surprised to see their precious powerline taken down in front of their eyes during the 6:00 p.m. news. Serious trashing days filled all of this spring. Cranes, bulldozers, trucks and towers were fair game during this period. Ned Ludd's presence was felt. Storage yards were a favorite target. At one yard, 2,000 insulators were broken and 50 kegs of bolts were ground into the mud.

5/7/78 An energy fair was held by protesters.

5/26/78 The first in a series of wiener roasts was held. Several 40' wiener roasts were roasted that night. A farmer held equipment placed off the easement of his property for ransom and was paid \$3,000.00.

6/2/78 Police began mailing protesters arrest warrants, instead of arresting them on the spot. One woman received several mail order felony arrests on that day. Another farmer sold keys for construction vehicles illegally on his land back to the utilities for \$50.00 per key. A detective agency was hired with a \$600,000.00 contract for 60-100 agents. At that time we had local sheriffs, state BCA agents, FBI agents, and two security agencies all running around catching each other.

6/7/78 Two "day riders" were arrested for allegedly attacking cranes.

6/19/78 This was again "tie a yellow ribbon week." Ribbons were placed at the top of 180-foot towers.

6/23/78 Land owners were threatened by work crews, some with butcher knives. Knives were pulled on protesters in bars and woman protesters were threatened with rape.

7/4/78 A family (4 adults, 3 children) forced a \$1500.00 settlement for a bulldozer off the easement by standing in front of it. (Usually in a case like this, the money was given to protest groups.)

7/7/78 Three "tree climbers" were arrested in a plywood nest 150' up in a tower. We stated that in this case the powerline was good for some wildlife.

7/16/78 A security agent wrote and distributed a fake newsletter which thanked "whoever was responsible for the death of the worker." This led to violence by work crews against protesters.

Late July Mechanical blackbird guards. The courts called a grand jury. Grand Juries are dangerous to our civil liberties and are to be feared. Luckily, this one only served to charge arrested protesters with the same crime twice. More "tree climbers" were arrested. A protester was pulled out of the middle of a crowd at a picnic, arrested, taken to jail and beaten.

8/2/78 CPA co-op headquarters in the Twin Cities were occupied for a day.

10/29/78 Twenty people were arrested at a demonstration at the powerline end terminal at Delano, Minnesota. After a jury trial all were acquitted.

And so ends this chronology of arrests, trashing and harassment. Many things have been forgotten or cannot be told.

NEVER NOTHING TO DO

Things were getting a little dull at work the other day so while at lunch with some co-workers I brought up the subject of James Watt's resignation and the appointment of William Clark as Reagan's front man at Interior. I was sitting at a table with several people whom I knew to be outspokenly opposed to everything. They were usually a lot of fun. These people ran the gamut of opinion from fundamentalist bigotry to unionizing baby-sitters. They were all the victims of outrageous utility companies, near-sighted corporate management, steam roller government, poison purveyors, and all the other sure-to-the utilities for \$50.00 per key.

A detective agency was hired with a \$600,000.00 contract for 60-100 agents. At that time we had local sheriffs, state BCA agents, FBI agents, and two security agencies all running around catching each other. Nothing. It was like they had been lobotomized. All I got were some grunts, a few That's-a-real-shame's and a general consensus that There-is-nothing-we-can-do-about-it-the-shots. Well, they really got me down. That night I went home and just sat and wallowed hopelessly in apathy and resignation that our fate is

The incident at Delano ended most above-surface protest. Towers, however, continued to fall. 15 completed ones to date have fallen. Countless other damage has been done. There were over 140 arrests. Most were dismissed but some people did time. The line now carries no place to sell it.) The coal plants in Underwood are not working properly. UPA-CPA had to truck in East Coast crude just to get the lignite to burn. Lignite is terrible stuff to work with. Mined at 40% cussion of health hazards until now, and will touch on them only briefly. Throughout the protest we were worried about health hazards. Now we are being proven correct. The problems cover a broad spectrum: headaches, shocks, rashes, other skin problems, stray voltage, spontaneous abortions, deformities in live births and others. Cattle farmers have the worst problems. Emissions of nitrogen based oxides and ozone routinely exceed already high state standards. Complaints are ignored by officials.

Some say we have lost. Not so. This fight has not had its final battle. Tower steel works equally well for wind generator towers. (One has already made this transformation.) This fight gained the attention of the power establishment in America, and since not one major proposed powerline has been built, to my knowledge. But the energy wars are by no means over. We must never let down our guard. We must learn from our history.

This article is certain to fuel debate about non-violence and violence, the difference between them, what makes up each, and which is more appropriate. This debate must go on, we must be clear in our hearts and minds as to what we are comfortable with in our defense of Mother Earth.

decided, not by people of wisdom, sensitivity, and far-sightedness, but by a handful of powerful shit heads. Doom loomed.

I felt like writing you people a letter telling you to forget the whole damned thing. Go home where you belong and buy something plastic and disposable like a good American should, and stop stirring us up. And I would have, too, but I was too busy throwing up my hands in despair and moaning, "Woe is me, pass a Wendy's burger."

That is, until I picked up a copy of USA Today. The old ire returned. After skimming over the day's catastrophes (most of which were due to that demon Corporate Greed), I turned to the section Across The USA. If there is ever any doubt as to the necessity of environmental activism, a synopsis of a single day's report from the homogenized national newspaper will quickly dispel such uncertainty.

Alabama: State senate passes a bill giving the state title to 7,700 acres of oil-rich offshore land claimed by the University of South Alabama. The fox is apparently guarding the henhouse in Alaska, too, where action on regulations of state-run aerial wolf hunting has been delayed until a spring meeting by the Alaska Game Board.

The Supreme Court that Mendocino County's ban on state-authorized aerial spraying of phenoxy herbicides is pre-empted by state laws that allow it. The implications of that case are scary. And note ye doubters of the California corporate consciousness, that San Diego Gas and Electric will bite the bullet and tighten its belt by cutting its rate increase request for underwriting its nuclear power plant at San Onofre from \$109.1 million to a teensy \$60.3 million. And you environmentalists boast about sacrificing a little convenience to save gas...

Lake Wales, Florida, cancer insurance salesmen are biting their nails instead of the bullet since three water plants were closed after the first) cancer-causing chemical was found in a municipal water plant serving 14,000 customers.

Grandview, Idaho, sees the EPA leveling more fines against Environmental Services for more violations of PCB disposal rules, and the company already owes \$150,000. Envirofossils? They must have had a good chuckle when they made that one up.

Earth First!ers should watch the head of Indiana's new Commission on Environmental Policy. Governor Orr created the commission to deal with the state's hazardous waste problems. Maybe they can haul it next door to Peoria, Illinois, where that state's environmental watchdog slapped a whopping \$1500 fine on Ashland Chemical Co. when one of its barges crashed into a bridge and dumped 8,000 gallons of oven coke (50% benzene/50% light crude and other oils) into what was once one of North America's most lovely and fertile rivers, the Illinois. Twelve-days before that incident Archer-Daniels-Midland Company allegedly dumped benzene into the same river just downstream from the barge accident. One of the watchdogs said, "They shouldn't have done that." Florida has nothing over Illinois, not even oily beaches.

Speaking of money, and even-

ually someone does, at good ol' Seabrook, New Hampshire, the building costs of the nuke plant will increase \$1 billion over its owner-estimated cost of \$5.3 billion. ONE BILLION DOLLARS! That would save a lot of wilderness.

Kids will be kids, but maybe not for long in Ambler, Pennsylvania, where a playground adjacent to a former asbestos dump site was closed after a study revealed asbestos fiber contamination.

Amarillo, Texas, EF'ers have their work cut out for them from Wyoming to the Texas panhandle; *Beechtel* (that magic word) along with Texas Eastern, Inter-North and KN Energy will be sucking water and \$3 billion for a coal slurry pipeline.

In Vermont they won some and lost some: A contractor must replace a 400-foot wooded buffer on the Kinsbury branch of the Winooski River. Washington's Columbia River near Richland may be contaminated spring water due to discharges into the river from a closed reactor Highway and the Ethan Allen home. But Vermonters are losing some free water because the state approved plans to build a hydroelectric plant between the Northern Connector and the Ethan Allen home. Think about it.

At the Hanford reservation plant, from the December 8 edition of a national newspaper, I wonder what we could find if every EF'er reported from his own locality, and by extension, what we could do if every EF'er DID SOMETHING.

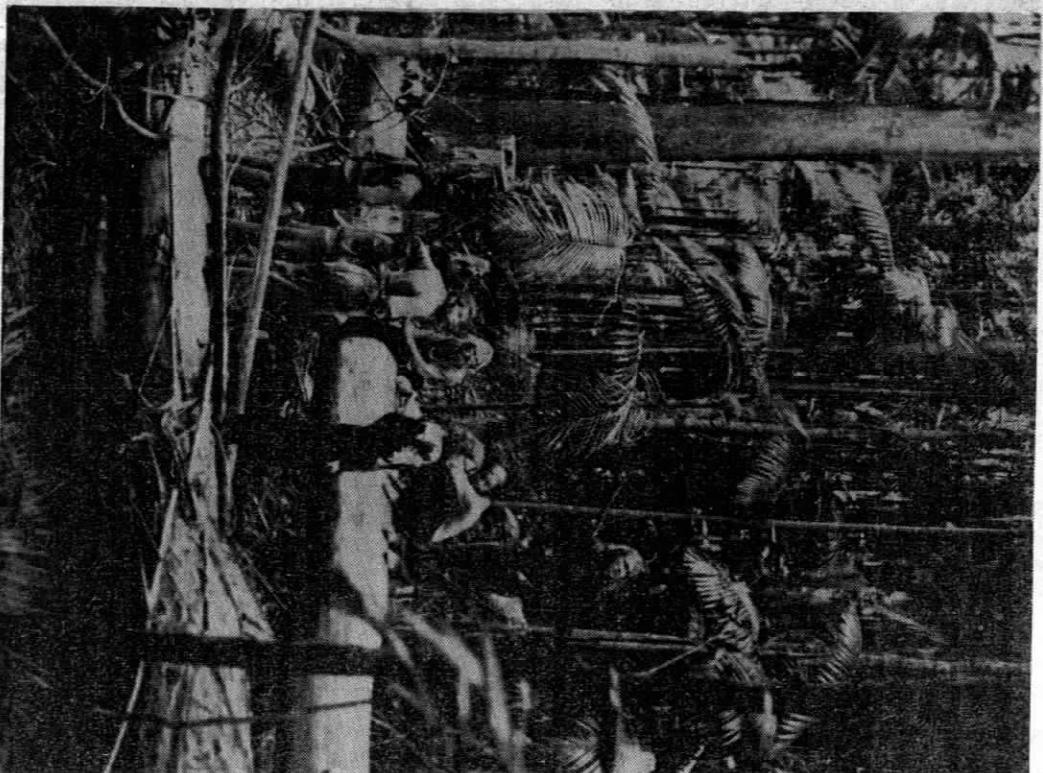
The reason I am pointing out all this depressing stuff is to illustrate my contention that there is no place that allow it. The implications of that case are scary. And note ye doubters of the California corporate consciousness, that San Diego Gas and Electric will bite the bullet and tighten its belt by cutting its rate increase request for underwriting its nuclear power plant at San Onofre from \$109.1 million to a teensy \$60.3 million. And you environmentalists boast about sacrificing a little convenience to save gas...

And to think that this was just from the December 8 edition of a national newspaper. I wonder what we could find if every EF'er reported from his own locality, and by extension, what we could do if every EF'er DID SOMETHING.

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Speaking of money, and even-



THE EDGE: THE MOVEMENT IN

by Bill Devall

more radical groups practicing direct action in rainforest preservation.

The conservation-ecology movement came of age in the late 1970's as the effective and affirmative alternative to usual modes of thinking. The campaign to end commercial whaling in Australia gained international recognition. Leading Australian philosophers and poets contributed carefully reasoned arguments defending the 'rights' of whales and calling for a total ban on commercial whaling in Australia.

In 1979 the federal government appointed a commission to study the whaling issue and recommended closing the last whaling station on the continent. The American group, Friends of the Earth, published the report of the commission on whaling under the title *The Whaling Question* (San Francisco, 1979) and that book was used as a text by those in other nations seeking to ban commercial whaling.

During the 1970's some labor unions began working on environmental issues; particularly the issue of mining and exporting "yellowcake" (uranium). Some union leaders organized "green bans" to blockade export of uranium. This alliance continues in the 1980's with sometimes tenuous connections between environmentalists and the Australian Labor Party (ALP) which controls the federal government and four of the six state governments.

The campaign to save the Franklin River and the wilderness of southwest Tasmania marked the coming of age of the ecology movement. Although this issue was developing during the 1970's in Tasmania it culminated in 1982-83 when it became a national and even international issue. In the federal elections of 1983, the "greenies" marshalled support for the ALP after that political party endorsed the "no dams" option on the Franklin. American newspapers and magazines covered the story and the drama of the nonviolent blockade of dam builders. The organizers of the blockade wrote a handbook on nonviolent direct action which was utilized by Earth First! planning the Bald Mountain blockade in southwest Oregon in 1983.

People from all parts of Australia participated in the Franklin blockade. In my interviews with some of these veterans, I was told how deeply they were affected by the experience. Working in a risky situation with other committed greenies amidst the grandeur, beauty and rugged mountains of southwest Tasmania, they said they developed a sense of love and commitment they had never felt before.

But the campaign to save the Franklin River also demonstrated the difficulties and frustrations of reforming a society dedicated to comfort and convenience. I spoke with Bob Brown, president of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society and

now a member of the Tasmanian parliament. "We never realized then how difficult it would be to get through conventional modes of thinking," he said. Participants in the Franklin blockade constantly discussed tactics and strategy and each time that they seemed hopelessly frustrated, Brown said, they came back to the purpose of their action: "We wanted to keep the Franklin River a free flowing river. We were dedicated to protection of the Franklin, not to our own problems."

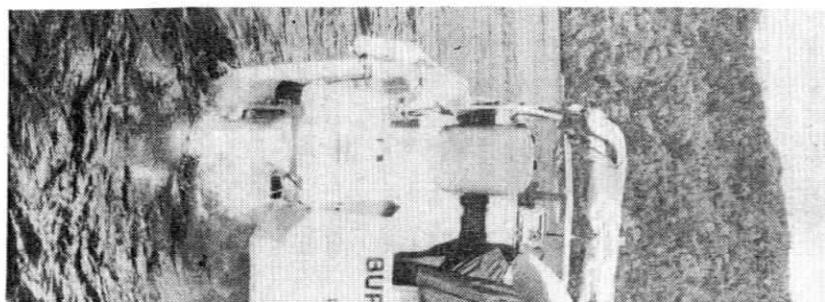
While the Franklin River campaign was underway, other people in New South Wales were defending remnant rainforests from loggers and from the Forestry Commission. In Lismore county, people were laying in front of bulldozers and logging trucks.

The Big Scrub of northeast New South Wales was the greatest stretch of subtropical rainforest in Australia and perhaps the world. After a hundred years of clearfelling and burning, only small sections remained in the 1970's. My hosts at Bodhi Farm, near Nimbin, participated in these actions and gave me vivid accounts of their emotions, reasons and understanding of rainforests. (A movie, *Give Trees a Chance*, documenting these actions has been shown in America on Earth First!s 1984 Road Show.)

John Seed from Bodhi Farm was called to trial on charges connected with the blockade the day I arrived in Australia. I attended the court hearing and although his case was deferred that day, his defense to the court is worth quoting, "I respectfully submit, your worship, that the defendants in front of this court were a key to saving rainforests. In the light of the ecological evidence, and the expressed desire of the people of this state, I suggest we should be receiving medals, not the maximum penalty under the law. ... I was arrested while attempting to show the police evidence of crimes committed by the Forestry Commission and the loggers. These crimes included the removal of unmarked trees, failure to follow the Standard Erosion Mitigation Conditions and logging without Environmental Impact Statement. The latter charge has since been proved by the Supreme Court. Not only did the loggers lose the case, the costs were awarded against them. I was arrested while attempting to show the police evidence of these crimes. When they refused to investigate, I allowed them to arrest me in protest."

At current rate of prosecution it will take until 1986 to try all the defendants of rainforests from the Nightcap action at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The government is proceeding with the trials even though the Premier of New South Wales in announcing the Nightcap National Park said, "I thought it was not everyone who thought it was a great thing to save the rainforests, but I'll make this prediction here today. When we're dead and buried and our children's children are reflecting upon what was the best thing the Labor Government did in New South Wales in the 20th Century, they'll all come up with the answer that we saved the rainforests."

At the Total Environment Centre in Sydney I talked with staff of the Australian Conservation Foundation who told me "John Seed and those guys who blockaded the loggers sure keep us honest. They make us think."



Thinking and Action

During my short visit to Australia five major conferences were held on environment, ethics and ecology indicating the pace of intellectual activity as well as political activity in 1983.

The landscape architect students at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and the University of Melbourne organized a conference titled "The Edge." Attended by over 500 students, teachers, activists and farmers, the theme of the conference was new perspectives on the Australian landscape and the quest for sustainable human communities.

During the "edge" conference an incident occurred, however, which illustrates the difficulties of trans-

Deep ecology is understood and accepted by a growing number of Australians. The ecology movement is entering a new phase of maturity, commitment and purpose in Australia. Nonviolence is accepted as an appropriate approach to social action. Wilderness and rainforest preservation, and regrowth, are key issues facing Australia. Government bureaucrats and some politicians are seriously considering alternatives to the usual approach to economic growth in Australia.

These are impressions I have after spending two months with Australian eco-activists in 1983. Traveling in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, I spoke to groups of intellectuals, college students, members of alternative communities and teachers. I listened to numerous discussions of deep ecology and alternative communities and interviewed some of the leading ecophilosophers and activists in Australia.

My audiences were all receptive to the basic tenets of deep ecology. Many people told me after my talks that they "felt like deep ecologists," but did not have the specific words to express their feelings.

Australia as a nation seems to be at a turning point. The dominant concern, as expressed in election campaigns and in the Franklin dam dispute, is jobs at whatever environmental cost. The primary political motive is expressed in terms of "getting the economy moving again..." But the "green movement," both reformist and deep, is beginning to penetrate the dominant perceptions, and some politicians, journalists and philosophers are redirecting the discussions to explore the inherent weaknesses of the usual approaches to solving problems. New Age-high technology and deep ecology are two of the most discussed alternatives to the dominant modes of thinking about Australian society.

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EARTH FIRST!

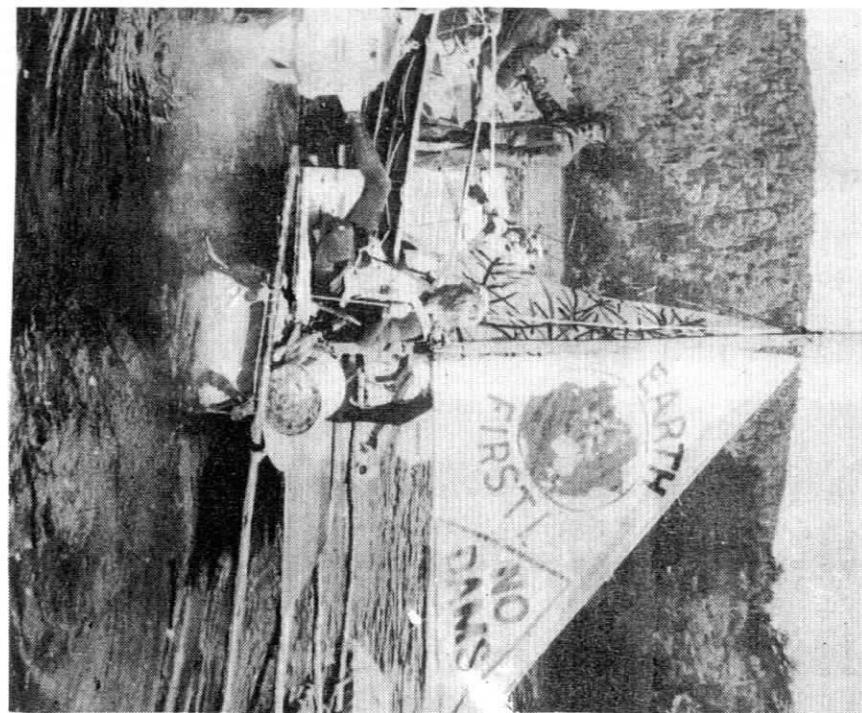
May 1, 1984

ECOLOGY AUSTRALIA

lating ideas developed in the ecology movement into terms understood and accepted by people on the street.

The news media reported that vandals had doused an enormous 3000 year old Huon pine tree beside the Gordon River in the Tasmanian World Heritage Area with oil, burned it, and cut it up. "All that remains of one of the world's most ancient trees," said one reporter, "is less than a metre of charred stump and some smashed trunk nearby."

A spontaneous demonstration was organized with approximately fifty people marching from the university where the conference was underway through downtown Melbourne to the offices of the Tasmanian Tourist Bureau where songs were sung to "give trees a chance" and short speeches given demand-



repeated by other speakers.

Charles Birch, author of *The Liberation of Nature*, was most critical of the concept of intrinsic value in nature. He said he could not understand what deep ecologists mean when they talk of "thinking like a mountain," and he presented a hierarchical scheme of values. He challenged deep ecologists to make specific recommendations for resolving genuine value conflicts between human welfare and the welfare of other species or of an ecosystem.

A major conference for "intellectuals" was held at the Australian National University in late August, sponsored by the Human Sciences program and the Department of Philosophy. A similar seminar held in 1980 resulted in the publication of a major book on environmental

philosophy in Australia. (*Environmental Philosophy*, edited by Manson, McRobbie and Routley, ANU Department of Philosophy monograph).

Dr. Peter Ellyard, Minister of Technology for the state of South Australia where the major uranium mine (Roxby Downs) is located, opened the conference from the perspective of a practicing politician. He called development a "beautiful word" and chided greenies for ignoring the jobs issues. He called for more attention to discussions of changing the meaning of work and changing the basis of agriculture in Australia. For example, he called for game ranching kangaroos to replace cattle and sheep grazing. He also called for the feminization and "aboriginalizing" of Europeans in Australia, a theme

Certainly we can gain this awareness to some extent by studying the 'new physics': certainly we can gain it to some extent by studying ecology. But the only method that has been perennially advanced as the way of directly apprehending the fundamental interrelatedness of all 'things' (events), is the way of silence, the way of withdrawing our internal clamour from the world. Hence, my original claim: a deep understanding of ecology requires that we enter into the silence. Thereby we hope to directly experience a sense of wholeness and to live in that knowledge so that we are better able to present ourselves gently (or with minimum violence) in the process of the world."

Several other philosophers were critical of any spiritual-religious intuitive or aesthetic paths to deep ecology. They were also critical of any attempts to integrate Eastern or Native American philosophies and practices into modern societies. In their view, deep ecology will be accepted only if some rational philosophy is developed and if some existing cultural meanings are used. There is a rational basis of deep ecology, but it is based on Aristotle's theory of rationality. Presuppositions, "ultimate norms," intuitions and understandings precede the rational articulation of the argument. It seems that some commentators confuse the more narrow (and probably modern) idea of intellectualism with the deeper meaning of rationality.

One economist at the conference criticized the use of cost/benefit analysis in making environmental decisions. He demonstrated that the logic of these economists always leads to more and more destruction of wilderness and wildlife habitat. Instead, he suggested, we must change constitutions. For example, the UN Charter on Nature, passed by the General Assembly in 1983 could be incorporated into national constitutions. Something of this sort was done in the case of the southwest Tasmanian wilderness which was nominated to, and accepted by, the United Nations as a World Heritage Area and the Australian Supreme Court ruled that the government had treaty obligations to protect the wilderness.

Australia is a signatory to the Antarctic Treaty and, while I was visiting Australia, hosted a general meeting of all nations with interests in the Antarctic, the last continental wilderness. Since decisions concerning the future of that continent will be made during the next ten years, some ecologists in Australia were urging concerted efforts to get constitutional protection for the flora and fauna and great wild spaces of Antarctica.

At the conclusion of the conference at ANU John Seed suggested

working through their own problems as men. Warwick Fox, a young philosopher at Murdoch University in Western Australia, read a germane paper on "The Intuition of Deep Ecology." He also wrote a paper for the deep ecology conference at Ballina entitled "Silence, Violence and Deep Ecology." He concluded, "one of the central problems, if not the central problem, is ... to realize and maintain an awareness of wholeness.

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that eco-activists must face up to the desperate situation on this earth. "Change is still possible," he said, "but not likely." Given the depression and apathy that many people feel when confronted with ecological realities, Seed suggested holding despair workshops rather than intellectualizing seminars during which people could expose their fears of extinction, nuclear warfare and destruction, and work through those fears to a positive, affirmative, realistic praxis.

John Seed organized a conference on deep ecology at Ballina, New South Wales, in early September. This provided a supportive setting for deep ecology. Over fifty people from many occupations, expressing diverse lifestyles, coming from urban and rural homes, gathered on the beach for a weekend of intense discussions which were counterbalanced by volleyball, surfing and birdwatching. An aboriginal elder opened the discussions by contrasting the Westerner's lust for knowledge and domination with the aboriginal's sense of place. Later we visited an aboriginal initiation site on the coastal sand dunes which had been used for hundreds of years to help young people understand their responsibilities as adults and their relationship to the earth. The Bora ring, as it is called, is now surrounded by expensive homes in a subdivision designed by real estate agents. Teenage boys were doing "wheelies" on motorcycles through the site when we arrived. Participants eagerly listened to talks on deep ecology and then formed circles to discuss such topics as rainforest preservation, alternative communities, the meaning of shifting paradigms; nonviolent direct action, deep economics, levels of consciousness, human population control, constraints on our actions, and our relations with the peace movement. At the self-evaluation circle at the conclusion of the weekend meetings there was strong, positive and affirmative consensus that deep ecology is "the only game in town worth playing at this time" and that the "hundredth monkey" might be sitting in the circle.

Meanwhile, in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, reform conservation groups were meeting at the Third Australian Wilderness Conference to discuss writing a national wilderness act for Australia and coordinate strategy in all states to protect remaining wild habitats. Mike McCloskey, executive director of the Sierra Club, brought lessons from the American wilderness movement.

The aboriginal land rights movement and the wilderness preservation movement have an uneasy alliance at the present time in Australia. Creation of new national parks frequently is seen as an infringement of traditional native uses of the area. There are parallels between the United States and Australian movements in this regard. In discussions with some native Americans concerning the Siskiyou mountains of northwest California, I found great difficulty in reconciling the modern concept of "designated Wilderness Area" with native American cosmology and land use rituals. While both American and Australian ecology movements use ideas from "primal" peoples, the modern institutions such as National Parks and "designated Wilderness Area" are not adequate containers for the concept of "sacred land."

Ecology is a healing art, as well as a science. It is a sensibility as well as an argument from rational premises. And in the best Earth First! tradition John Seed and his friends have established a Nomadic Action Group (NAG) to nag politicians, intellectuals and ordinary citizens to face up to the choice between new age-high technology and deep ecology.

I came away from Australia sensing we can all be NAGgers. The deep ecologist as activist rather than ivory tower, urbanized intellectual, is a desperado and an ecomonk. We give our raze, our speech, and do our best to confound conventional thinking in the best tradition of the Australian bushranger. The image of ecomonk is powerful. The ecomonk is not self-serving but serving the larger whole, "organic wholeness, love that, not man apart," as Robinson Jeffers wrote. The ecomonk has a presence, resonance and understanding that simplicity of means yielding richness of ends is an appropriate lifestyle. My last evening in Australia we celebrated the equinox at the Nimbin festival. On a grassy hillside that had once supported enormous rainforest trees, overlooking the volcano still survive, celebrants drummed up the full moon, "renewing the dreaming" that had been practiced by aborigines for thousands of years on that continent. "The dreaming," say aborigines, holds humans together with each other, with other species and with the sacred space. Drumming up the moon was an affirmation of our connections with earth, more fundamental connections than are accessible to scientific rationality.

Professor Bill Devall visited Australia last year. He is a leading student of Deep Ecology.

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DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.

ROADS AND SURVEY STAKES

by William Haywood

A well-known writer has advised: "In the wilderness seems to be spreading. In some areas stake-pulling seems to be endemic, much to the chagrin of Freddies and other land-rapists. Interestingly enough, it is not just wild-eyed environmental radicals who do it. Hunters of the old school, angered at the intrusion of roads into favorite hunting grounds, are doing it. Even miners are pulling stakes in some locales — although they are hardly motivated by lofty ideals. Instead, they simply wish to be left to their destructive activities in peace, undisturbed by rival rapists."



Unfortunately, most of the stake-pulling currently taking place is of an unplanned nature, and hence is highly sporadic. A few stakes will be pulled up here, a few there, while most of the stakes marking a given construction project will be left undisturbed. Annoying to the agency or corporation which placed the stakes, certainly, but it is hardly a devastating blow against development of the wilderness. As a means of venting one's anger at the system done, but as a means of stopping or even seriously slowing down the machine it is hardly effective.

Yet stake-pulling, systematically done, does have the potential to be a credible deterrent. Even if it does not ultimately deter a given project it will delay it and increase the cost. If done in enough places, the cumulative effects of the delays and cost increases (due to the necessity for repeat surveys) will almost certainly lessen the total number of new construction projects carried to completion. And the value of halting even a single wilderness development project is incalculable.

When one encounters survey stakes in the wilderness, it is more likely than not that the stakes indicate a planned road. Roads are generally the first step in any serious development scheme; once the road is in, a host of other evils will follow. The ostensible purpose for the road may be a number of things: logging, mining, oil or gas exploration, even so-called recreation or fire control. Though this summary is based on experience with logging-road surveys, the basic principles should hold for other types of road construction.

Following the line of flagging, this crew locates the center line of the road, marking it with a line of stakes. Since this is a more precise survey, the new line may end up deviating from the old line of flagging. Stakes are sometimes placed at regular intervals, say, every 50 feet. Usually, however, the stakes are placed wherever there is a "break" in the terrain. A break might be a minor

undulation in the ground, or it might be a more significant change in the slope. In complex terrain, such as a stream crossing, stakes might be placed a few feet apart. In level, unbroken terrain, they might be as much as 100' apart. Where a stake is placed is referred to as a "station." He takes out a topographical map and draws a line where he thinks a road ought to fit. Next, a crew goes out into the field and "flags" this line. This takes two people at most, and is a fairly simple operation. Conforming to the topography and using the color usually used by engineering crews — different colors may be used by others, such as timber crews) from trees and bushes along the way. The line of flagging may differ substantially from that originally drawn on the map, since the importance of keeping within a reasonable gradient is paramount. For instance, main logging roads seldom exceed an 8% grade, and most stretches are less. If the road were too steep, the logging trucks might be slowed down (an unthinkable thing), and worse yet, stretches of road steeper than a certain percentage may require paving (to prevent erosion) and hence the cost of construction would increase. If one encounters a line of flagging in the woods, but no stakes, it is possible that one has come across a road in this preliminary state of survey. If one will be back in the area, it might be more effective to wait until the project is more advanced before undertaking any monkey-wrenching. If one is not planning on returning, however, one might well remove the flagging. You will probably only have obliterated a day or two's work, however. After the route of the road has been roughly flagged in, a more proper survey crew, usually consisting of anywhere from 3 to 5 people, is sent in. The purpose of this crew is two-fold. On the one hand, their survey will precisely fix the route of the road on the actual ground. At the same time, they will be gathering and recording data which will later be used to design the road. In the design of the road (usually done by a computer) such things as the amount of cut and fill, blasting (if any), need for bridges and culverts, and things of a similar nature are computed. Since this data is used to estimate the cost of construction, the information gathering function of the survey crew is of considerable importance.

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CORRECTING FOREST SERVICE SIGNS

This is for all of you frustrated artists who drive by the big "Land of Many Uses" signs and get pissed off because you know what the Forest Circus really means by that. Here is a way of making the signs more accurate.

You will need a sheet of $\frac{1}{4}$ " plywood (other thicknesses will do, but they're heavier), some yellow paint (oil based), nails and glue. You will also need a router to engrave the lettering, and a saber saw to cut out the curves.

I assume that all of the signs have standard dimensions, but you should measure the sign you wish to modify, as some dimensions,

especially those for the bolt holes, may be different.

Using the plan, lay out and cut the (replacement) bottom of the sign. It will be in two pieces, since most plywood is only 8 feet long. Paint it with a yellow paint as close to the Forest Service color as possible. Then, lay out the lettering from the plan, and use the router to engrave it into the wood. Make the letters in the same style as the Forest Service lettering so it will look as much like the original as possible. Use a drill or a hole saw to put two $1\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter holes in the board. These will accomodate the bolts which stick out of the existing

sign. After the sign is finished transport it as inconspicuously as possible to your target sign. Coat the back with glue. To hold it in place while the glue dries, use nails, preferably finishing nails. The corrected sign may not fit perfectly, but driving by at 60 mph, who will notice? Most people probably won't even notice your correction! (Except you and me, of course.)

Have fun with this, and I hope to see several corrected and accurate Forest Service signs as I travel next summer!

— *The Mad Engineer*



DISABLING MOTOR VEHICLES OF ALL KINDS

All (motorcycles, cars, trucks, heavy equipment):

1. Jam door and ignition lock cylinders with slivers of wood, a hard tough cement like "super glue," or silicone rubber sealant.
2. Pour a pound or more of sugar or heavy syrup into fuel tank. Amount depends on the size of the engine. The more, the better.
3. Pour a gallon or more of water or brine into the fuel tank. This is simpler and cheaper than using sugar; but the "down-time" is shorter.
4. Pour dirt, sugar, and/or salt into oil filter hole. This will not produce immediate results but can do extensive damage.
5. Pour water or syrup into the oil filter hole. Amount depends on engine size - at least 2 quarts for a V-8. The point is to make sure to use enough so the oil pump will draw only water. The water should maintain "oil" pressure without lubricating at all.
6. Slash tire sidewalls. Sidewall stabs cannot be effectively patched, whereas tread stabs can be.
7. Smash fuel pump, water pump, valve cover, carburetor, distributor, or anything else except battery (for your safety) or brake system (for their safety). Use sledge and a steel bar for precision blows.
8. Pour water, syrup, and/or dirt into air intake (the big hole usually right under the air cleaner). The more, the better.

Diesel engines and heavy equipment:

1. Smash fuel injectors with sledge and steel bar. They are expensive and very hard to remove when effectively smashed "in situ."
2. Pour dirt into gearboxes and hydraulic oil reservoirs. *Do not tamper with brake system.*

3. Cut hydraulic lines and hoses with cable cutters. Bolt cutters may work, but a knife will not because of steel reinforcement in most hoses.
4. Smash hydraulic fittings and pistons with a sledge. Do not tamper with brakes.

DOWN TIME FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT WITH RUBBER TIRES

Earth haulers, front end loaders, back hoes and many other destruction vehicles have great big hairy-assed tires. These tires cost a lot of money, both to buy and repair, and can cause a large amount of down time for the company and project. One very efficient way to disable all tired vehicles is to use a large cold chisel and five pound sledge hammer on the lug bolts and nuts on every wheel of every piece of equipment on the construction site. Once you have properly destroyed all chances of easily removing the wheels for tire repair, stand back and launch a projectile of at least .357 of an inch and at 2500 feet per second or more into the sidewall of each tire. This bit of monkeywrenching should be done after all other activities are completed because it is a little noisy.

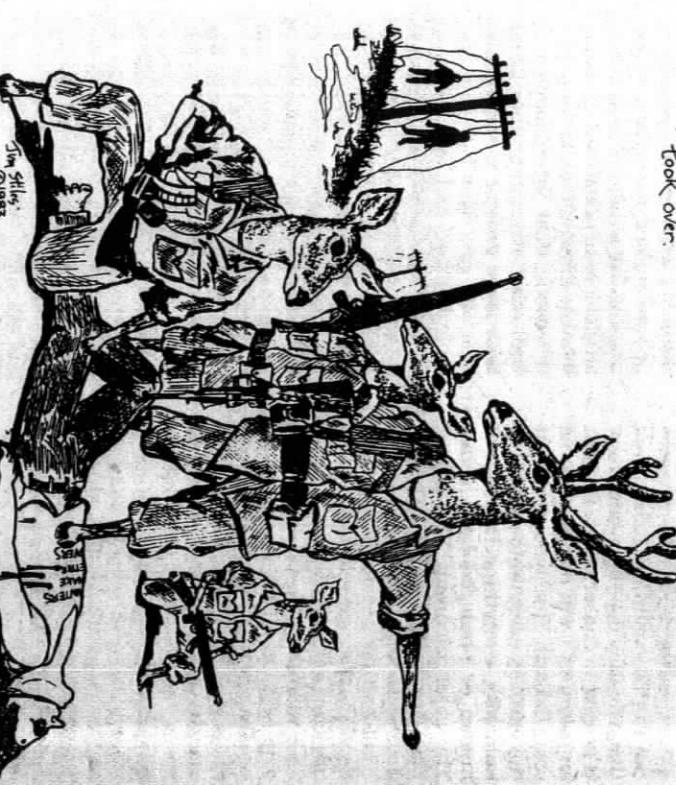
— *Get that great EF! seeking*

Mr. Goodvrench

Dear EF!

The short blurb in the last issue on sending in postage paid envelopes to offensive organizations really hit home. Friends and I have been doing this for quite a while with a wide variety of shitheaded spawn envelopes and I encourage all Luddites to do the same. Envelopes are non-recyclable because of the gum. If you're daring, you can send your address in, getting even more offensive postpaid envelopes to play with. Hold a mailing party with your friends or search through Post Office trash cans for such "treasure."

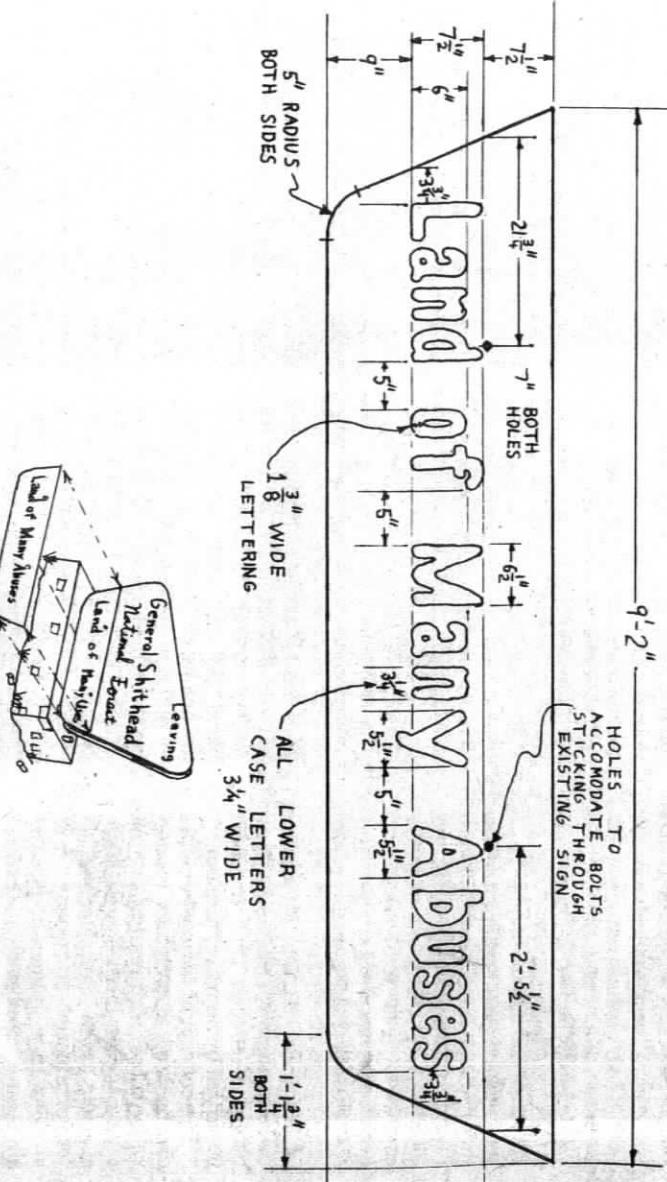
— *Imashi Thread*
Arcata, CA



Dear EF!

You provide a whisper of hope and inspiration to those of us back here in the ravaged East. A few of us have been revived a teenage past-time of billboarding. Old Doc Sarvis wouldn't have fared too well with the monstrous high-profile billboards we have back here. They don't burn and they can't be cut down. But we've found a good substitute:

All we need is a gallon of paint, some thinner, and an eight pack of



beer in non-returnable bottles with twist-off caps. (Yeah, I know I shouldn't be buying that non-returnable crap but we haven't found an acceptable substitute yet.) Just determine a good proportion of paint and thinner, fill the bottle, cap it, and it's ready to fly. We're trying to make people aware of how pervasive and obnoxious the damn things are. People are beginning to notice and someone else has begun to hit billboards now on his own!

— *Ohio*

Dear EF!

I read Dave Foreman's article, *Its Time to Return To Our Wilderness* in the Dec. '83/Jan. '84 issue of *Environmental Action*. I spend more and more time in meetings and legislative halls and less and less time in the hills that I call home... and often wonder how far I can go before I lose what I'm fighting for. Please send me a copy of your journal.

— *West Virginia*

OF INDIVIDUAL SPECIES, ASSEMBLAGES AND BATS

by Reed Noss

The *Earth* comes first! On a smaller scale, one we can deal with as activists, that means the natural community or ecosystem. We strive to maintain its integrity, structure (characteristic species composition and diversity), and function (nutrient cycling, energy flow, climatic regulation, etc.). By looking at the entire system, we can avoid the conflicts, narrowness and bias sometimes imposed by worrying about the fate of individual species.

On the other hand, the idea of a *whole ecosystem* is somewhat abstract. We could lose a lot of species and still have a functioning ecosystem. Some type of system, albeit an impoverished and unstable one, would continue to function if every bulldozer ran rampant over the earth, or even if we detonated all our nuclear warheads. If we value natural ecosystem *integrity*, we must complement the whole ecosystem approach with a focus on the individual species and assemblages of species that are most imperiled by human civilization.

The concept of *indicator species* can be used to target for conservation those creatures that are least tolerant of our disturbances. Some species, often characterized as "opportunistic" or "weedy," will prosper in a human-dominated landscape. Non-native (exotic) species frequently become pests in a new environment without their

customary predators and competitors. But other kinds of organisms are able to persist only in the largest and most strictly protected wilderness areas. Large predators, ecological specialists, and species dependent on patchy or unpredictable resources, large home ranges, and/or low reproductive potential are particularly vulnerable to extinction from human modifications of the landscape.

Thus, species can be ecological indicators: some are indicators of disrupted, weedy conditions, and others of relatively pristine, whole ecosystems. The former can get along fine by themselves; the latter need our unmitigated defense. Despite any metaphysical inclinations in conservation we should not treat all species as equal. If we focus our attention on the most threatened species and assemblages, we have a good chance of saving their respective ecosystems. One group of organisms that has fared poorly since humans claimed the earth is the bats. Among mammals, the order Chiroptera is second only to Rodentia in number of species. Some 850 species, representing an amazing array of adaptations, have been described. Insects, fruit, pollen, nectar, flowers, leaves, blood, fish and other vertebrates are among the food items selected by different kinds of bats. In numbers of individuals, too, they can be extraordinary. Sometimes they congregate in caves by the millions. But these congregations are rapidly decreasing. People generally hate bats, perhaps even more than they hate spiders and snakes. Because bats have been so persecuted,

they need protection above and beyond that of the particular ecosystems in which they function. The fact that they congregate in large numbers (in caves, trees, human structures, etc.) makes them especially vulnerable.

For example, 90% of the remaining Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*, a federal endangered species) hibernate in just nine caves. People have been known to wipe out an entire colony in a cave just for the fun of it. In a study of the endangered gray bat (*Myotis griseescens*) in Kentucky, a colleague and I found evidence of many former colonies that had been exterminated by man. Chiefly because of human persecution, the Kentucky population of gray bats had declined at least 89% from a past maximum.

People also make money killing bats. In the United States, particularly, pest control companies sell a fraudulent remedy of poisoning other buildings. The virulent poisons used are also a menace to human health, and new bats may come in after the others have been exterminated. Bat-proofing buildings (sealing openings) while the bats are away is an obviously better solution (although generally bats in a building do absolutely no harm), but the pest control bastards don't make as much money that way.

What can we do to save bats? Habitat protection and public education are essential strategies. Both the foraging habitat, generally comprising extensive tracts of natural vegetation and unpolluted

water, and the roosts (caves for many species, but also cliffs, large trees, and human structures in areas where natural ones have been eliminated) must be protected. But it is not enough to put a piece of land into public ownership, or conservation use. Even in a wilderness area, if people find a cave containing bats, chances are the bats will be eliminated. Unfortunately for those who like nothing "artificial" in a natural area, fences or properly designed gates may have to be placed around the entrances to these subterranean habitats. Particularly in maternity colonies and hibernacula, bats need to be left alone.

I know many so-called "conservationists" who are biased against bats, who flinch or "eek" when one flies by. Hence the necessity of education. We have all been fed an incredible amount of bullshit about bats. Do bats fly into your hair? Not only can help it. Do bats commonly transmit rabies? No! This is one of the biggest fallacies, and willfully perpetuated by health authorities. A Florida county health official, who recently officiated the mass slaughter of several hundred bats harmlessly roosting in a junior high school gymnasium, claims that 20 to 40 percent of a bat colony typically harbors rabies. That is total nonsense! A correct figure, according to world bat authority Merlin Tuttle, is less than one-half of one percent. And neither healthy bats nor rabid bats attack people. They only bite in self-defense, and the teeth of many species are too small to break human skin (an exception is the vampire bat of the

DEEP ECOLOGY, ELITISM AND REPRODUCTION

by Reed Noss

Often in this journal, I read people lambasting the production of new *Homo sapiens*. This is understandable, for the excess population of our species is surely the single most important factor in the ruination of the earth. It follows that negative population growth is essential if we are to protect what is left of the natural earth, and restore what we can to that condition. I also agree that a healthy dose of misanthropy is crucial to conservation. But not some in Earth First! who claim that the earth is everything *outside* of humanity, everything that is *not* human or produced by humans. This is schizophrenia! Where does that leave us? Where do we belong if not here with Mother Earth?

I do find it odd that people writing in *EF!* find it necessary to continually remind *EF!* readers to curtail their reproduction. This is a waste of newsprint in a valuable journal. We are not the people who need reminding. What do you suppose is the natality for the average EF! household, compared to that of the average American? Or to be more extreme, compare our baby production to that of the average Catholic, the uneducated black or Appalachian, the poor Latin American, the African, the Indian? Who the hell needs educating about birth con-

trol?

I will now step onto dangerous ground and assert that some of us deep ecologists have a duty to reproduce. A recent *EF!* letter referred specifically to this attitude, and called it "elitism." Well, god damn it, I'm called an elitist all the time (usually for trying to keep some natural areas inaccessible to the public, who usually screw them up) and think that maybe it is time to recognize a "deep ecology elite," an ideological population of people who understand their kinship with the earth, their interdependence with other ecological entities, and their duty to fight for what they love and *are*. This is a true and ethical elitism, and has nothing to do with material wealth or political power. Remember, most people do not feel this way about the earth. Most people stupidly fear and reject any association with nature. Most people are "Me First," not "Earth First!"

Look around, and you will see that the people who do most of the reproducing are generally the people with the worst environmental attitudes, and/or the deepest ignorance about the need or methodology for contraception. Assuming that both nature and nurture (genes and learning) influence environment, a genetic influence would certainly

be very indirect), this suggests that the ratio of Earth-despoilers to Earth-protectors is increasing at a geometric rate. I am *not* so foolish to suggest that we attempt to beat the despoilers in the reproductive game, or that we eugenically breed a population more receptive to environmental values. Both would be impossible, not to mention totalitarian. However, I would suggest that we attempt, through education and communication, to share our awareness of deep ecology with those who really need it, but at the same time not "unbreed" ourselves out of existence.

There is a correlation between intelligence and environmental awareness, although the scatter is obviously large. We all know people who, by conventional definition, are "intelligent" (good old "Jim Watt"), but are dumb as shit when it comes to understanding our relationship with nature. Yet it takes an ability to understand relationships, i.e., intelligence, to be a deep ecologist. Intelligence being largely genetic (identical twin studies show this well), there is thus a genetic component to deep ecology. But learning, of course, is more important.

Inherited intelligence only sets the stage for what can be absorbed. A lot of us come from parents who had negative environmental attitudes, and had to somehow get our

understanding of nature "on our own." But it wasn't completely on our own. We all had mentors, teachers in person and in literature, who influenced us. And a parent can be an effective environmental educator. Kids I know who come from parents with decent environmental perspectives almost always share that perspective, and retain it as they grow. We need more kids like this, not fewer.

Having a kid is as natural a thing as you could possibly do. Ecologist Dan Kozlofsky, whose book I reviewed in the last *Yule* issue of *EF!*, wrote: "We instinctively recognize that for our psychological wholeness, male and female, we must have the experience of generating new human beings. It is a central aspect, perhaps the overriding concern of our animality." Kozlofsky realizes, of course, that "we will need a long period of negative population," and therefore that no one should have more than two children. None of us needs to feel guilty for not having kids, but neither for having kids, as long as we do not over-produce. There are enough people who cannot or will not reproduce that the population will stabilize and then decline to a reasonable level if no one has more than two children. And the people

who possess and can share the awareness of deep ecology are the best equipped to bring a child into this wounded world.

I am not defensive about my own reproduction. My wife and I have one child, and she is the beautiful result of a deliberate and conscientious decision. We may have a second child, though probably not. I will admit that I get angry, in fact *damned*, pissed, at those who have more than two children these days. I see little excuse for anyone in the world (except in the most primitive cultures) not understanding the problems of overpopulation.

I also know that I, and everyone who reproduces, have a responsibility to nourish my child with an understanding of the kinship and interdependence of all life. A person with such understanding can make a positive contribution to conservation, more than compensating for the resources he/she consumes (for example, the people active in *EF!*). There have to be people to keep up the fight, which will probably continue until the extinction of our species, when the present generation of activists is gone. Call me an elitist if you like, but I say that all people are *not* equal in comprehending or defending the Earth!

neotropics, which will feed on a sleeping human as readily as on a sleeping javelin.

The facts we must point out are that bats are tremendously important components of natural ecosystems, and directly help us by controlling insects, pollinating and dispersing food plants, producing guano for fertilizer, and a host of other functions. They are also amazing, beautiful and gentle creatures. Although some species have adapted fairly well to our modifications, others are critically endangered because of our ignorance, superstition, and cruelty. (For more info, contact *Bat Conservation International*, c/o Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI, 53233.)

The bats are just one example of organisms that require special attention beyond that of ecosystem level or wilderness preservation. Again, the holistic and indicator species approaches can be complementary. Ideally, we would concentrate on the most endangered elements at each level of biological organization, from genes, individuals, and species to ecosystems, landscapes and the biosphere.

Don't waste your time on laboratory rabbits, puppy dogs, dandilion, or even baby seals. That is *not* to say the cute and cuddly are unimportant, or unworthy of our love and respect. But other things, occasionally "ugly" to biased human eyes, are going faster toward oblivion. To preserve the integrity, structure and function of a natural Earth, we must concentrate on those forms that can least tolerate the cancer of humanity out of control.

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VISIONS

THEY WANTED ME TO IDENTIFY THE HANDS

Culture contains the seed of
opposition becoming the
flower of liberation

LEAN, LEAN
KEEN AND INSTANT
STEADY THROUGH SAGE
SILENT ON SAND
OVER, UNDER
AROUND AND THROUGH

Chip Rawlins

Rattlesnake Dick's Place

¶:but you'd be surprised how difficult
it is to remember your children
those hands reaching up, in prayer,
eating, oh you'd think a mother
could remember, so I turned the glass
studied the way they bobbed
a slow sign language the people speak
the ones who cannot talk
floated in a little dance one
with the other and the soldier
took the jar, shook it again, and I
said maybe, perhaps, maybe I'll see her
maybe she'll wave to me,
a person gets used to this kind
of thing, it happens so often,
yes
she'll want her hands back,
want to visit her friends in Chicago,
they talk of sanctuary,
or in New York, Los Angeles
is it warm there [the angels]
she'll not need gloves
she'll be at home in a strange country.

Joe Napora
Oxford

THE FLOW

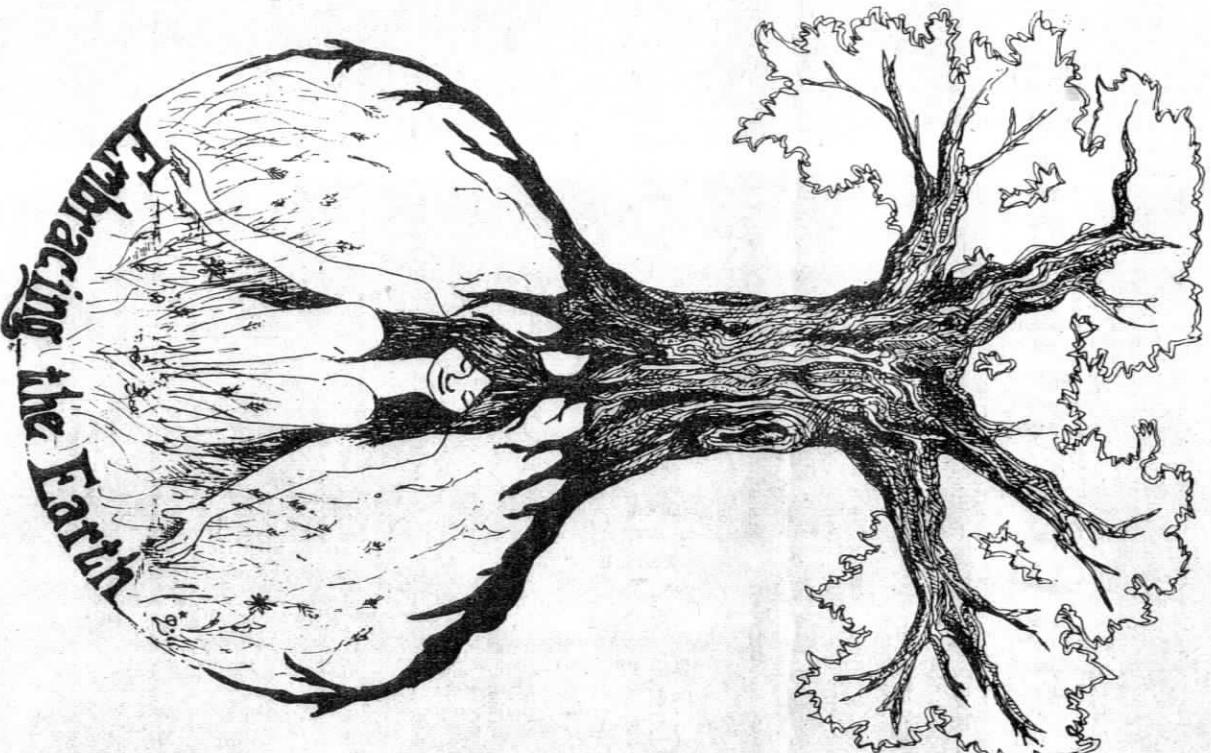
Why? The river flows narrow and tight, yet
it rushes and pulls with unyielding spirit. It
never gives up. There are times for stillness
and times for reflection, but the push is ever
onward ever forward - never back.

I have been caught in bottomless
whirlpools twisting and fighting with all my
strength only to grow limp and weak, willing
to revolve in static motion. I have floated
on my back, lazily, with the sun warming my
belly and the currents caressing my neck,
but my eyes were shut and I never saw where
I was going - and when I got there it wasn't
where I wanted to be. But it was easy.

Now I am like a salmon - I fight the flow.
The rocks may rip at my flesh; the water's
strength may test my will, but I continue to
search for my place. Only now I don't travel
when the water is muddy; I look where I am
going. I take time to glide in green pools, the
shafts of clear light fluttering and sparkling
on my silken skin.

I touch bottom sometimes, but it is a
resting period, and the sand waves against
my form in a soothing rhythm of continuity
while I wait. And I do wait because I've
learned, although I must continue my
personal quest, the river is the master, and I
must be attentive to its power, to its whims,
to its directions.

Sometimes we may be at odds, and I may
try to change its course or soothe its ripples
make it gentle when it roars in furious
torrents, make it stop when I need a rest or
when I don't want to go forwards or
backwards, when I just want to stay, to be.
But I never can. I never will. The river is the
master; that is why.



ODE TO THE DUNE

at Funston and Rivera Streets
surrounded by the city grid
San Francisco

Happy as a weary traveler
having arrived
at this passageway left open
this remnant of living fabric
of our mother's skirt
this dune
I climb up
as eagerly and hungrily
as the opossum birthing
who has sixteen seconds
up the damp and grassy trail
The nipple I find
the milk of hope
knowledge of longevity
warmth of kin
this wild marah-
roots deep in native sand
greets me flowering.

My ear to the tree
I hear for miles.

BOB ARNOLD
The Longhouse

(marah: Indian name for native wild
cucumber)

Judy Connolly

Trinidad

Nancy Morita

San Anselmo

On April 21, 300 Earth Firsters and friends filed the meadow at San Jose Family Camp in the Sierra Nevada to celebrate John Muir's birthday and to tell the water development interests of California "NO!" to plans to further dam and destroy the singing Tuolumne River. River runners Kathy Crist and Don Preley McCleed the rally which began with Johnny Sagebrush and his soul-stirring songs "The Buffalo Are Gone," "Thinking Like a Mountain" and a newly-written hymn to the Tuolumne. John Amadio from the Tuolumne River Preservation Trust discussed threats to the river and efforts to have it designated a National Wild River.

Professor Bill Devall discussed the historical significance of the Tuolumne, pointing out that the modern environmental movement was born with John Muir's battle to prevent the destruction of Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park by O'Shaughnessy Dam 70 years ago.

Former California Resources Agency chief Huey Johnson, who filed the famous California RARE II lawsuit, wore an Earth First! hat and exhorted the enthusiastic crowd not to "compromise." He drank a toast to John Muir and EF! Public lands expert Bern Shanks traced the history of water development projects in the United States and called for the removal of O'Shaughnessy Dam and the freeing of the Tuolumne.

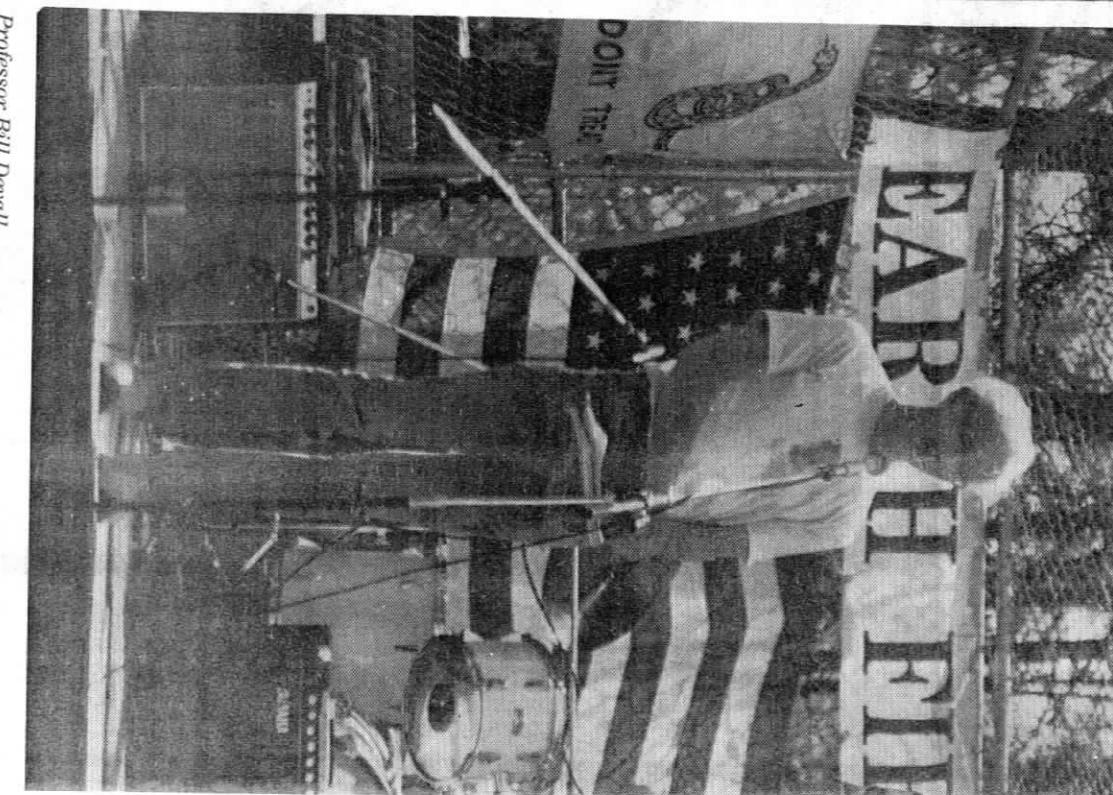
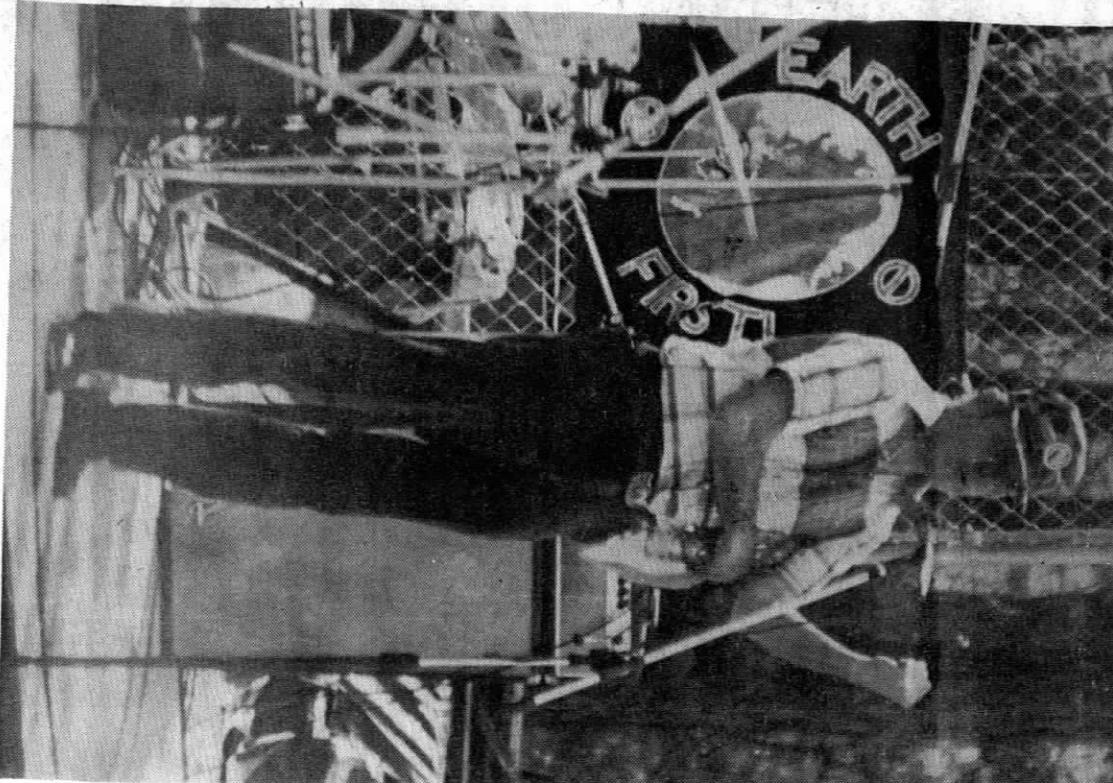
Environmental singer Bill Oliver from Austin, Texas, was a hit with the crowd in the meadow with his witty "Have to Have a Habitat" and "Shopping Mall." Marcy Willow encouraged everyone to fight no matter what the odds and called the veterans of the Kalimopsis Blockade up to sing "Take Your Bulldozers from Under our Noses." Dave Foreman, in characteristic style, roared against the despoilers of the wilderness and promised that the Earth First! flag which flew at the Franklin River blockade in Australia would fly on the Tuolumne if political efforts to save the river failed. He asked the audience to close their eyes and imagine the California that John Muir knew. A chant of "John Muir, John Muir" began softly and soon reached a crescendo. When everyone opened their eyes, John Muir stood before them. In a lifting Scottish brogue, he told them to "seek the glad tidings of the mountains" and to "hold on!" and fight for the wilderness. The rally finished with two and a half hours of music from the rollicking California Zephyr band, Jonathon Richman and the Sierra Showmen, and a crazed audience-participation version of Johnny Sagebrush's Wild Goose Band.

Jack Fisher treated the hundred Earth Firsters remaining that night to a chicken barbecue. Dave Foreman told the true story of Easter, a California Earth First! network meeting laid the groundwork for further EF! action and communication in the Golden State, and a fireplace jam session with Jonathon Richman, Bill Oliver, Johnny Sagebrush and the fiddle player from California Zephyr rocked everyone still present and awake.

Thanks go out to all the speakers and musicians, the organizers of the event and to the enthusiastic crowd. Special thanks to Lee Stetson for his powerful portrayal of John Muir. And - thank you! to the terrific staff of San Jose Family Camp for above-and-beyond-the-call-of-duty hospitality.

Photo by David Cross.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JOHN MUIR!



Huey Johnson: "Don't Compromise."

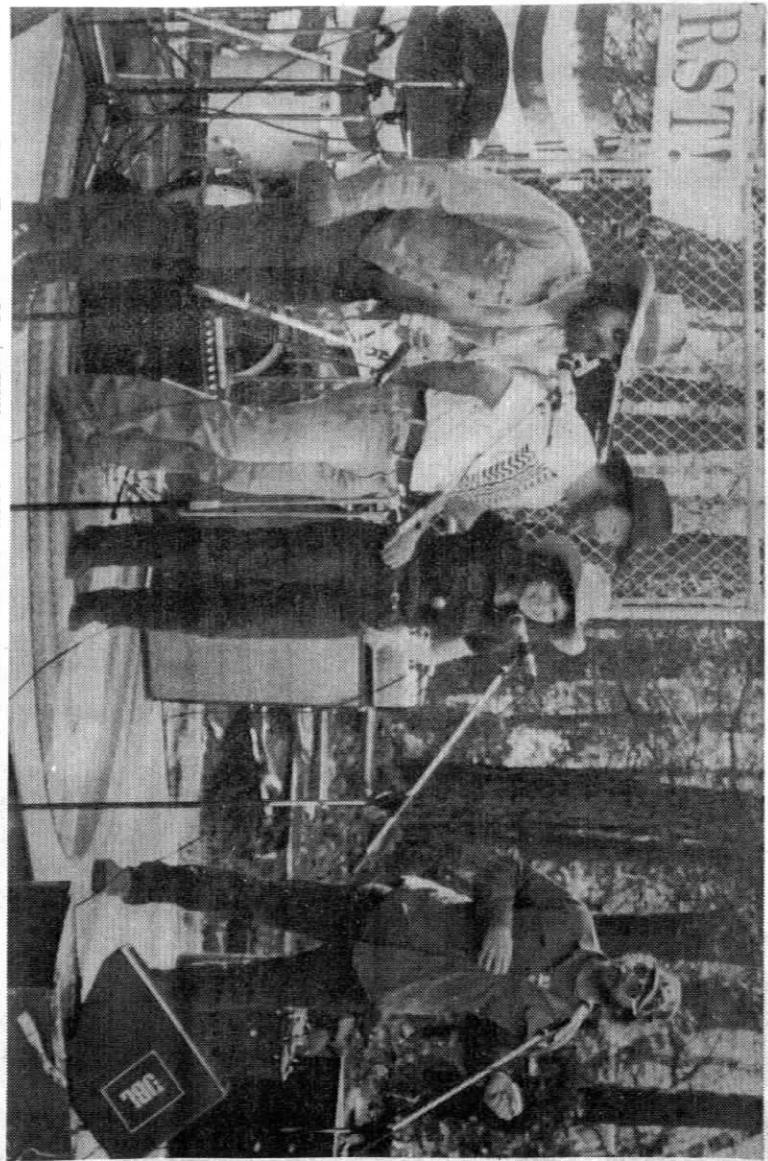
Professor Bill Devall

SAVE THE TUOLUMNE!

Thanks to Kathy Trender and Mike Roselle for organizing the Tuolumne Rally!

DAMN HETCH HETCHY DAM!

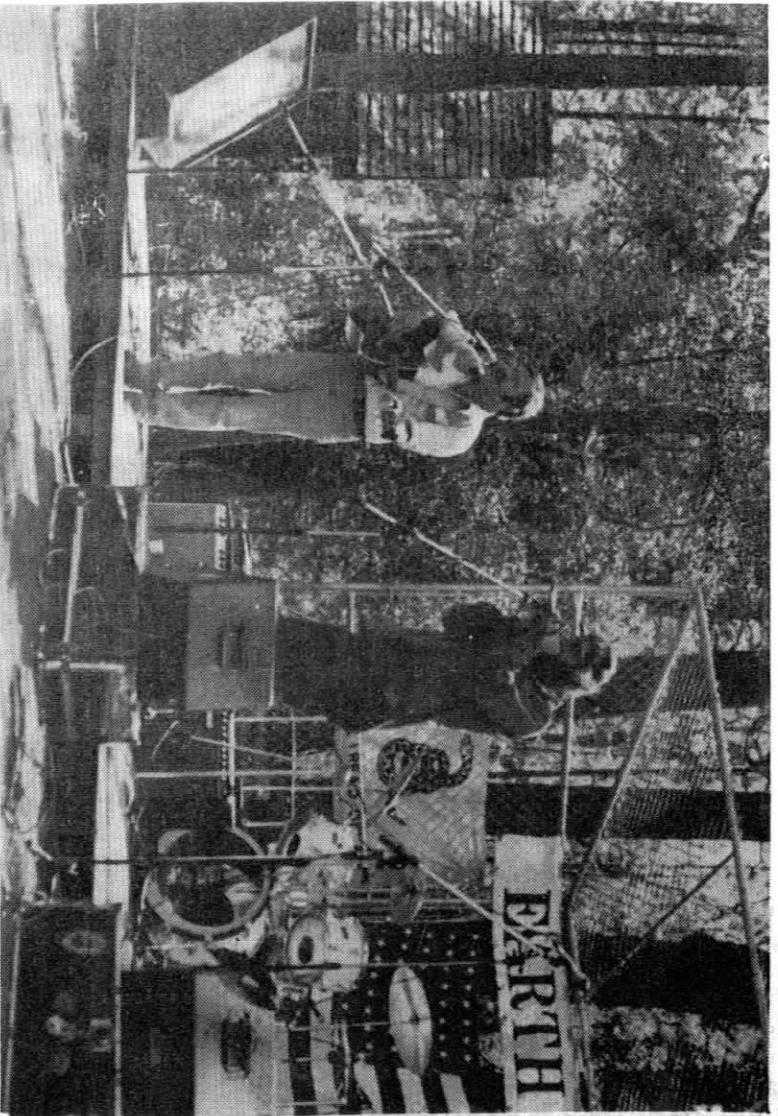
Bill Oliver from Austin, Texas



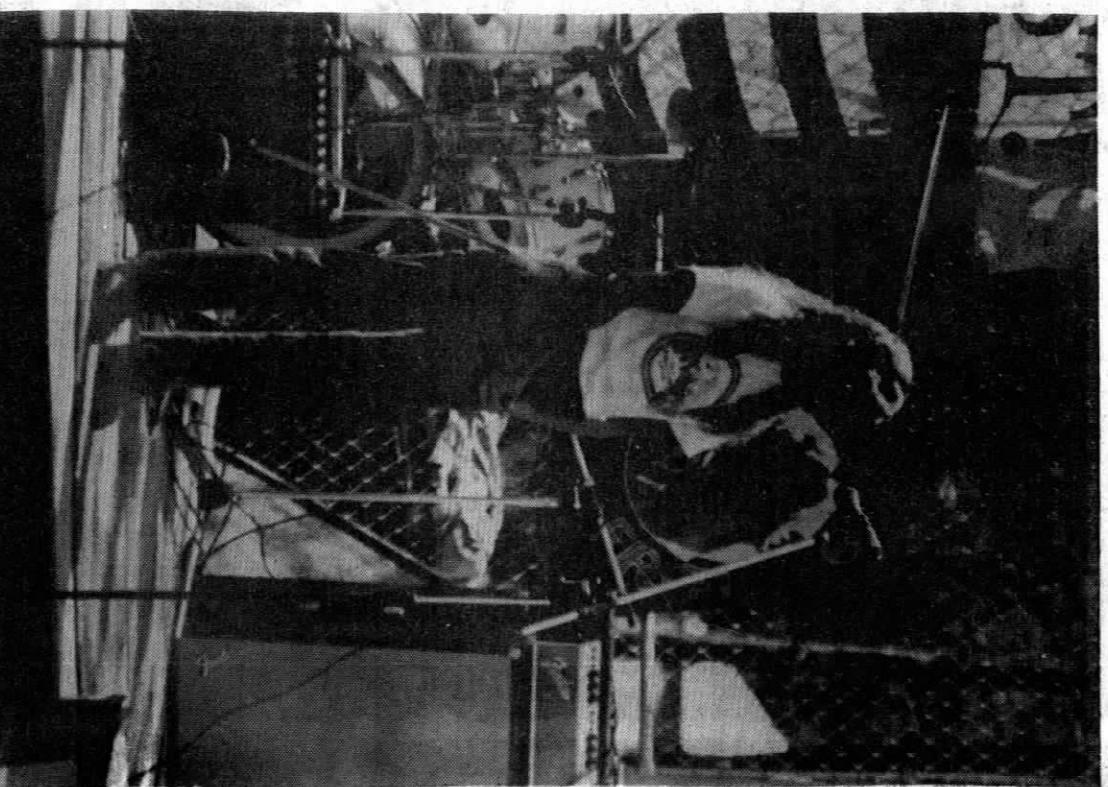
Ric Barbery, Dave Foreman, Marcy Willow and Mike Roselle sing "Take Bulldozers From Under Our Noses."



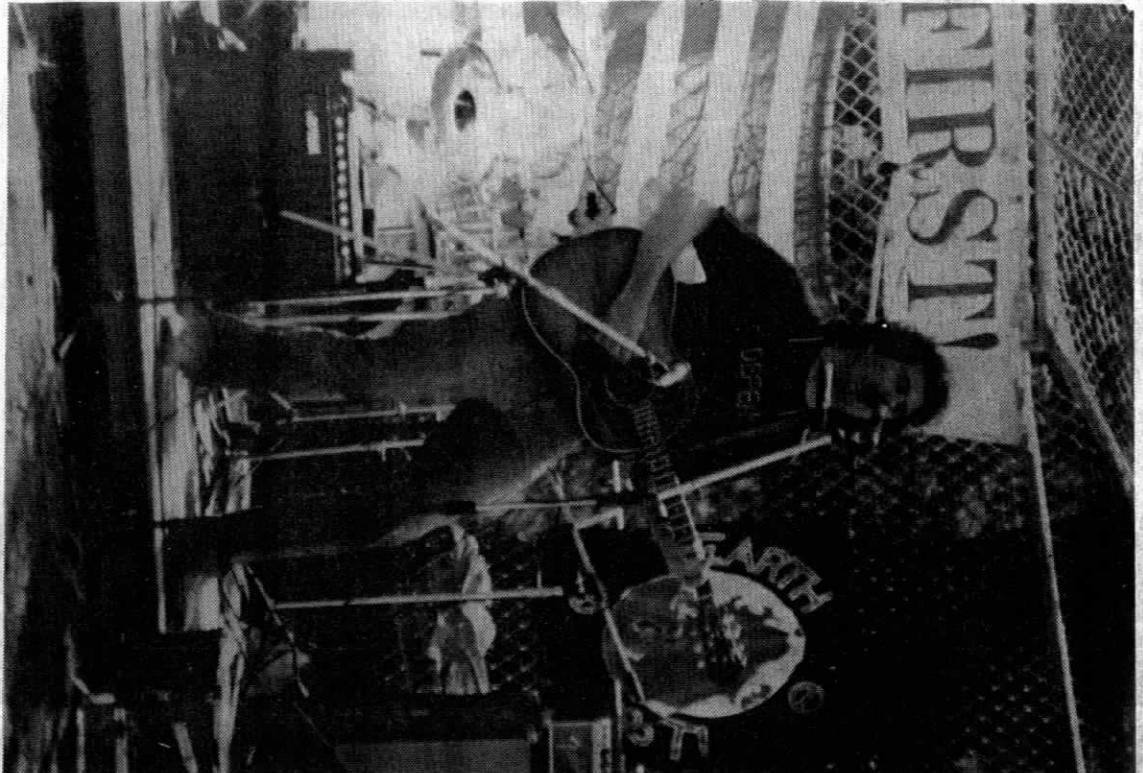
Dave Foreman in a calmer moment.



Johnny Sagebrush and Nagasaki ride again.



M.C. Kathy Crist



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The Survival Network is offering a series of publications including some out-of-print booklets and some totally new ones. Included are a series on the Haymarket riot, a series on early anarchist/feminist Voltairine de Cleye, a large booklet on surveillance techniques, a publication on Marion Federal Penitentiary, original anarchist fiction, excerpts from The Anarchist Black Dragon Anthology, and the comprehensive SURVIVAL NETWORK GUIDE TO USE-FULL RESOURCES, PUBLICATIONS & GROUPS.

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It takes about three months to hike the California portion and another three months to hike the Oregon-Washington portion of the PCT. But whether you hike the entire PCT or just parts of the PCT this summer, keep your friends and relatives posted with PCT postcards.

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	Total _____



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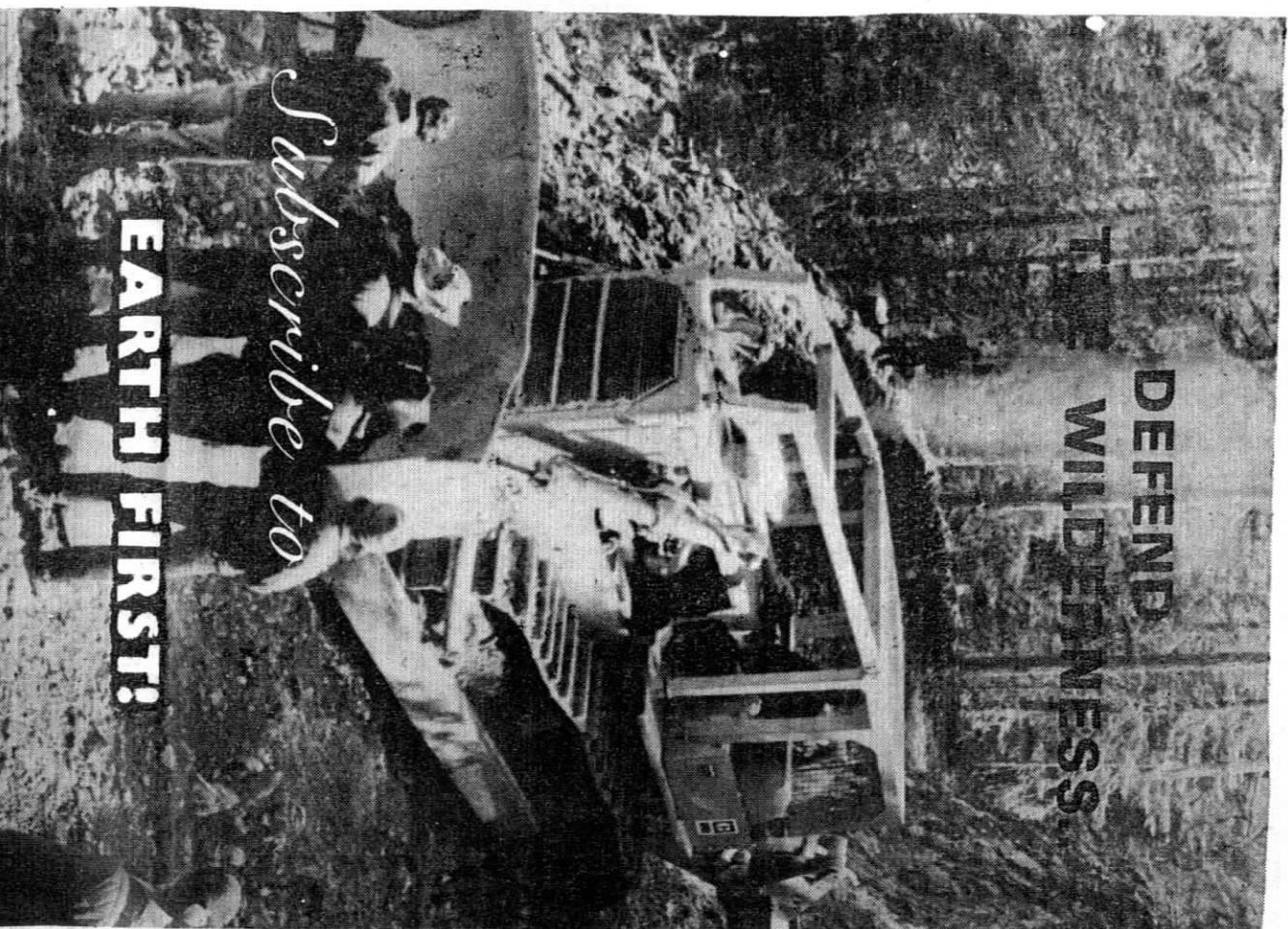
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